

THE AMERICAN FARMER

Established 1819.

WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 15, 1893.

74th Year. New Series.—No. 32.



HE thought has often occurred to me that it is queer that Eve did not tempt Adam with a spur of ripe, red cherries rather than with an apple; or, in other words, why the fruit of the cherry tree was not selected for the test of self-denial instead of that so well known to us in connection with the legend of Eden. Certain it is that there is nothing to-day growing on tree or bush which will so irresistibly tempt men and boys to violate a golden rule as the cherry will. Well-dressed men and women frequently alight from buggies and carriages as they drive by my place and break off whole branches of cherry blossoms; and, again later in the season, strip fruit from the trees in full sight of my neighbors. My place fronts on a street over which thousands of vehicles pass and repeat every day in the week during the Summer and Autumn months, just outside of the city of Cleveland.

THE CHERRY WHICH WE PRIZE was first brought from Asia Minor by the legions of Alexander the Great; disseminated from Rome to Europe and Great Britain. It attained centuries ago, as it does to-day, its finest form and flavor in the gardens of Kent County, England; but, we have the satisfaction of being able to grow it all over this country in excellent shape, and in some sections with exceeding great success. Our indigenous wild cherry or "choke cherry" belongs to the same family, but it is a very uncouth member and wholly unfit for human stomachs. It is so widely differentiated that as yet I have not been able to make grafts of the Asiatic stock ever grow more than two or three seasons on the trunks of our native *cerasus*.

The cherry is the one fruit that should never be eaten except as it is ripe, and then only when picked from the tree by the who eats. The excessive delicacy of its tissues is such that decay at once begins when a ripe cherry is plucked from its spur, and so fast does decay progress that within an hour or two after picking that

DELICIOUS, MELTING CHERRY, which would have done you no physical harm if it had been eaten when first gathered—that cherry is apt, pretty sure, to give you indigestion and set uneasily on your digestive organs; and, in this connection, it is a wise, proper, and safe thing to do, whenever you buy cherries in the market, to stew them first before eating, or make them into pies. On this account I do not know of any other fruit which we grow in this North Temperate Zone of America which has provoked so much cholera infantum and cholera morbus as has the cherry, after duly fermenting in the shippers' and market men's "stands" before its final sale to consumers is made.

But, if I can go right to the tree, give me the cherry of all fruits to eat. Grown as we grow it to-day, of every shade of color between red, white, and black, and of infinite variety in size and flavor, what more tempting object than a well-kept cherry orchard in June? It cannot be named. Still,

TEMPTING AND EXCELLENT AS THIS FRUIT IS, the scarcity of it everywhere as you go through the country is to me, remarkable. Everyone living in the country should have a dozen or 20 trees bearing

about his house and barn. Not only are they highly ornamental, but they are delightful caters to the palate of the family every June and July, when the weather is the hottest, and ripe fruit tastes the best of all times during the year.

Thirty and 40 years ago, whenever our farmers opened up a new home, they invariably planted an apple orchard, a few peach trees, and one or two sour or pie cherries close by the house. These pie cherries are all right in their way, but they utterly fail to give the least idea of what a civilized eating cherry is, and I do believe that the great American pie cherry has been largely responsible for the scant planting of better cherries, since these plump, juicy, little pie cherries are so sharp that, in spite of their inviting look, they cause you to involuntarily pucker your lips and whistle after one or two has passed into your mouth, and from that moment

A CHERRY HAS A BAD NAME in your mind, provided you have never eaten either which I call civilized.

In urging country people to plant cherries I do not do so with the idea of leading them to believe that there is any pecuniary profit in a good cherry orchard outside of your own satisfaction and enjoyment. I know better, because I have 250 fine-bearing trees on my grounds to-day, and from which I have not permitted any picking for market during the last 10 years to speak of. No fruit, however, sells better than the cherry, and I am close by a large market, but I have found it utterly impossible to get decent men, women, and boys enough together within the short time allowed by the rapid decay of cherries after they are fit to pick to strip my trees without ruining the spurs and branches. I say "decent pickers," because not one person in 10 that applies to you for the work of picking cherries is fit for the task. A mob of rough boys and hoydenish girls rush out from the city during cherry and strawberry season, and if you let them into your orchard by wholesale, as you must do, if you intend to pick all of

YOUR CHERRIES AS THEY RIPEN in a day or two from several hundred trees, they will go through it like a cyclone, strew the ground beneath the trees with a mat of broken spurs, branches, and leaves, and leave the trees fairly shocked. If you repeat this inflection next Summer, and Summer after that, it is ten to one that your cherry orchard is on the swift road to ruin, and that in a few years it will be beyond all surgery.

I soon found, after my trees became well established, that I could not keep them and sell the fruit to any great extent; that I was never able to get any more than from five to 15 decent hands together on short notice for cherry picking; that they could pick a small proportion of my orchard every Summer and do no harm; but beyond that I have not been able to go. Grapes hang 60 days after they are ripe, and you have no trouble in getting help to put them out of the way.

CHERRIES WILL NOT SAFELY HANG two days on an average after they are ripe, and it requires a large force of hands to cover the proper picking of an orchard of 100 or 200 trees, since the earlier kinds come in about June 20 or 24 here, and by July 4 the later ones, usually, are well out of the way. I have 250 bearing cherry trees. To have all of the fruit picked at the right time as it ripens on these trees would require the prompt command on my part of 45 or 50 good pickers every day during the

last week in June and the first 10 days in July. If I could assemble this help I could sell my cherries so as to realize a handsome profit. Indeed, nothing would pay better of the kind; but I cannot get the fruit properly picked before it is too ripe or rotten on the trees, and, therefore I have crossed the cherry orchard out of all consideration as a source of profit in raising fruit for market; not because the cherry is not easy of management: not because it does not sell well; not at all, but because it is out of my power to get the cherries annually picked without ruining the trees.

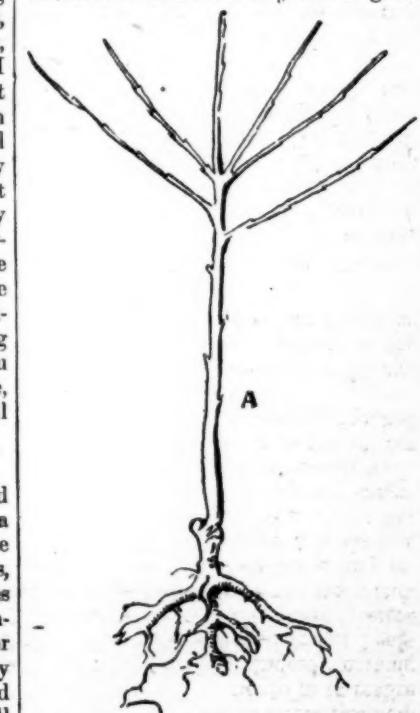
But a few trees, a dozen, 15 or 20, can be planted by any one person in the country, and this person can almost be sure of getting a few

CAREFUL HANDS TO HARVEST THE CROP without harming his trees. After these cherry trees are from 12 to 15 years old, he will be able every year to feast his family and his friends on all the fruit they can eat and preserve, and then sell so as to net anywhere from \$50 to \$150, according to the season as it may be bad or good for cherries.

There are, however, several very important differences between the planting of a cherry tree and that of an apple; little care is necessary for the latter, a great deal is required for the former. While the cherry is just as hardy as the apple or the pear, yet it is not so free of growth after transplanting from the nursery rows to the purchaser's farm or garden; and the result usually is stunted or dead trees, while the apples and pears put in at the same time with them, and side by side, flourish.

In the first place, before giving reasons for this trouble, let me remark that all fruit trees, like cherries, apples, pears, plums, quinces, which you buy from the nurseryman are all propagated by that man by budding or grafting on seedling stocks. He sows cherry pits, apple seed, and plum stones in long rows. When the first year's growth is made, he buds this natural wood with those selected varieties that are in most demand at the locality or within the area of his trade. Those stocks upon which any of the buds fail to "take," are rebudded in the following season, and where stout, stocky, low, bearing heads are desired, the natural wood is grafted with particular scions when it is two and three years grown from the seed.

After 20 years of close attention to this matter of growing cherry trees, I have learned to prefer grafted stocks—growing the natural wood and graft it myself. I secure in this way fine, thrifty trees in every instance, because I run no risk of stunting them by transplanting. I sow a few cherry pits wherever I desire a cherry tree to grow.



A—Example of cherry tree as taken up usually at the nursery when sold to the average buyer.

When the seed has developed in August I select the strongest and cleanest looking sapling for retention, and pull all the others out. When this natural wood has passed its

SECOND SUMMER'S GROWTH, I graft it early in the following Spring long before the buds have begun to swell. I am so fond of the cherry (indeed, I relish it more than any other fruit that grows in this country of ours) when I can go to the tree and pick for myself, that I wonder always when I go about the highways and byways of this region that more cherry trees are not planted by our people.

It takes from seven to 10 years to get a young cherry tree into good bearing from the bud or graft; if, however, it has been injured in transplanting, it will never do well, though it may grow a little every year for two or three decades before dying. Before I understood this peculiarity of the cherry, I puzzled over my trees for 10 or 12 years; then

the following facts became clear to me: First. The cherry, sour, pale, or black varieties, will all grow well on any soil. They do best on

DEEP, GRAVELLY LOAM, and poorest on stiff clays; still the trees on clay yield fruit in abundance of the very best quality; but the trees themselves never attain one-quarter of the size that they reach on gravelly loams, and again, the clay-grown trees are shortest lived, living only 25 to 30 years on an average, while the others on gravelly loams flourish for 40 to 45 years. As a rule, cherry trees die limb by limb, by inches as it were, and no skill or care seems to be able to save them when the process of decay begins to show itself.

A cherry tree, such as the old English Duke of Wellington (pale), the Elton (pale), Black Hawk (black), or French Louis Phillip (Morello), growing in the best situations, will reach its maximum development in about 30 years after planting; if growing as it should grow,

FREE FROM CROWDING, it will be about 40 feet high and spread its branches 15 to 20 feet in every direction from its trunk. Such a tree will yield from seven to 10 bushels of fruit every season from its 25th to its 40th year. Then it begins to drop off branch by branch, sometimes very rapidly, again slowly, into the "lean and slippered pantaloons."

Second. The range over which the cherry will thrive in this country is an immense one. It does well everywhere, but attains its finest condition in New England and that isothermal clear across the continent. I have eaten Georgia, Tennessee, and Virginia cherries that were simply unexcelled; but the trees down there never attain the age and size that you can see anywhere in Connecticut and Massachusetts. Many think that the apple is a greater cosmopolitan than any other of our standard fruits, but it is not so. The cherry has the widest range of successful fruiting. For instance,

CHERRIES ARE FINE in California everywhere, the apples are poor. The apples become fine, however, as you go north into Oregon and British Columbia; so do the cherries, too. In short, the cherry will flourish just as far north as the apple will, and much farther south.

Third. Any soil and any location will do for the planting of the cherry tree, provided water does not stand on that ground. On the bare hilltop, where it catches the full weight of the weather from every point of the compass or under the sheltering lee of a southern barnwall, it does equally well.

Fourth.

IN BUYING YOUR TREES go yourself, if possible, to the nursery and see that they are taken up under your eye without undue cutting of the roots; and as they are taken up, I should insist upon having these roots "puddled" i. e., thoroughly soaked in a half barrel or tub of liquid mud; then bundle the trees, cover with a piece of basswood, matting, straw, or an old blanket as they are placed in your wagon. This will keep the small rootlets from wind drying and shriveling. Go, if possible, to the nursery for these cherry trees early in the Spring, just as the frost of Winter is leaving the ground for the season; then the small roots will not fail to come out in fine shape; otherwise, when the ground settles, being tender and brittle, they break; badly unless extreme care is taken, and jeopardize the future of your tree.

If you intend

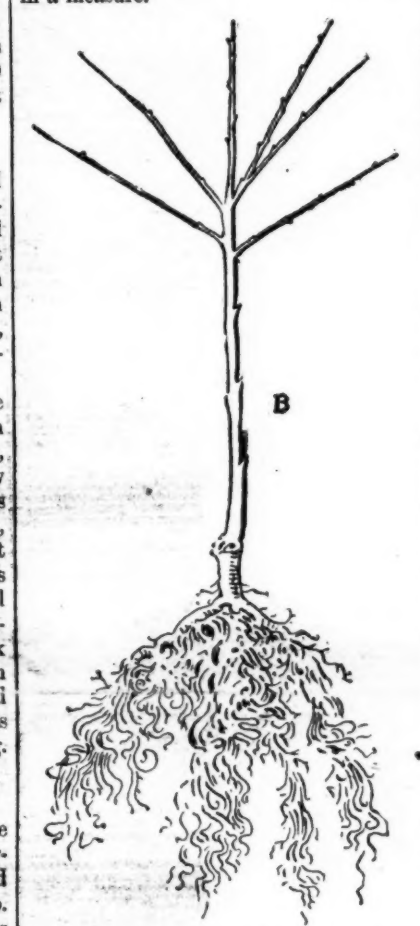
TO SET THE TREES in a little orchard by themselves, plow the ground deeply and thoroughly; if on rich, gravelly loam, put your trees 30 feet apart each way; if on stiff clay, 15 feet apart. If you desire to set them here and there around your place, spade the earth wherever you elect 18 inches deep, three feet in every direction from the center of the hole. As you put your young trees into the ground, examine the roots carefully, and with a sharp knife clean and trim off any broken ends that you may find; they heal better than if left ragged. Cut back the tops symmetrically, and after this hour, never again permit any

TRIMMING OR PRUNING of your cherry tree except to saw away dead limbs. An apple tree requires a great deal of vigorous trimming year after year as long as it stands; but trimming is as deadly in its effect on the cherry as it is beneficial for the apple.

Up to the 10th or 11th year of the growth of your cherry tree, I believe it best to carefully cultivate the ground around it; if it stands on clay, apply a liberal mulch. When it has fairly begun to bear and stock up pretty well, then it is not of any great consequence, this question of keeping the grass away

from its roots; at least, I cannot see to-day any difference between my grass-grown cherry trees that have fruited handsomely without cultivation during the last 12 years, and those which stand in my garden where no weeds or grass is ever permitted to grow about them. They were all set out in November, 1867. Those on the gravelly loam show to-day

NO SIGN OF DECAY, while those on the clay are beginning to drop out. They have lived out their natural limit of life on that soil, and, as they fall here and there, I replant with pear trees, or an occasional choice apple; you cannot successfully grow a young cherry tree on the site of an old one that has flourished there before dying. The same rule applies to the planting of apples, pears, plums, peaches, and quinces in a measure.



B—Example of same tree as it should be taken up as to insure a reasonable certainty of thrifty growth after transplanting. Never accept a tree coming to you as shown in Fig. A.

If, when you buy your cherry trees, you cannot so arrange it as to be personally on hand in the nursery when they are taken up in the Spring just as the Winter frost leaves the ground, then it is safest for you to order your trees in October, receive them then, heel them in under a good covering of earth for the Winter, and

SET THEM OUT NEXT SPRING

just as early as you possibly can after the end of frost in the earth. Trim the roots and puddle them before heeling in. A covering of eight to 12 inches of dirt is sufficient in the heeling trench.

In selecting trees at the nursery, I think the large English and French Morellos are best when grown or grafted on the Mahaleb root. Indeed, I believe the grand old Black Tartarian is best, too, when on the Mahaleb stock. It does best with me in this connection, and as it is the very finest of all early black cherries, it is well to note it. No matter what varieties you select, always buy young trees not more than two years at the most from the bud, or one year from the graft. Then patiently care for them for five or six seasons, pinch off all fruit blossoms during that time until the third year after setting out, when your reward will speedily follow, and you will feel that time and labor has been well spent.

I do not like to pick out any SPECIAL VARIETIES as being the best; I have 40 kinds in fine bearing to-day on my premises, and they are all good. No two of them taste exactly alike. On account of their color the black cherries seem to stand handling better than the pale ones; but in fact they do not. Both decay instantly after picking when ripe. The best cherries for shipment are the hard-fleshed French Bigarreaux; but they are not so good eating as the others—rather hard of digestion.

The earliest cherry is the "Early Purple Guigne;" but as it colors up a week or 10 days before it is fit to eat, the birds generally ruin the crop unless you fight early and late to save it. The earliest practicable cherry on my place is Kirtland's "Rockport," a pale cherry, and the Black Tartarian. They are usually ready here about June 22 to 24. If the weather is dry on and after that period for a few weeks

THESE FINE CHERRIES will hang on the tree in good shape until

July 4 or 5; but if it happens to be hot and showery, as they ripen on June 20, they will rot to a cherry on every tree before you fairly realize the fact, and before you can pick a double handful of the fruit.

A great deal has been written about this rotting of the cherry which is idle. The black cherries rot just as badly in hot, wet weather as their pale relations do—just the same. The old-fashioned American pie cherry, small, red, and sour, is the only variety which I have found to be bombproof, and I would just as soon have no cherry orchard at all as to be confined to the planting of it alone. It is a pretty tree, however, very hardy and long lived, but one tree is enough on any one place. If your Morellos fail, then the women will put up with it and use the fruit; if the Morellos do not fail,

THE LITTLE PIE CHERRIES will go begging, unless you sell them.

The later cherries, like the "Elton," "Belle de Choisey," "Red Jacket," "Black Hawk," are usually ready by July 4 and 5, and will hang on the trees until the end of the month, if the weather is warm and dry; otherwise, if wet, they, too, rot promptly and unanimously on each and every tree.

This is the risk you must take with your eyes wide open when you plant cherry trees. This is the reason why they cannot be planted for the market on an extensive scale by any one man.

There is the risk that makes it imperative that they be picked on the day of their first coloring up; and to pick them requires the prompt assembling of a large number of men, women, and boys within a half-day's notice, and of that risk in turn which you run when you let this mob of rough and ready pickers into your orchard, which I have spoken of above.

The cherry has

ITS INSECT ENEMIES

and a species of trunk blight. The latter infirmity up here amounts to little and occasions slight loss. The "wormy cherry," which so shocks our enthusiastic city friends when after feasting for a while in the trees they suddenly find that every cherry which they have just eaten has had a large, fat, white grub in it! This wormy cherry is an inscurable trouble. The cherries themselves give no outward signs of disease, and you cannot tell whether or not the grub is within the fruit until you have squeezed the pit out between your thumb and finger. It puzzles us, because next year not a worm will be found in our cherries in spite of the fact that they are all wormy this Summer; and, perhaps, not until four or five seasons elapse will the infestation reappear. But for reasons heretofore given I have made no effort to prevent this occasional wholesale stinging of my cherries.

In conclusion, let me call attention to that beautiful double-flowering cherry which all good nurserymen have for sale. It bears no fruit, of course, but the floral display that it puts forth is wonderfully fine. A large tree in blossom during the latter part of May and early in June is a singularly striking and attractive feature everywhere it stands, and, no matter what adjoins or surrounds it, it will easily call the first attention of all observers and win their heartiest admiration.

The American Farmer Leads.

EDITOR AMERICAN FARMER: I have viewed the scenes of the mighty struggle that has and is now going on at our National Capital with deep solicitude.

I look down the stream of time and behold Xerxes and his mighty army of 2,000,000 warriors crushing under the iron heel of despotism the little Spartan band of 300, and now we see the mighty host swooping down upon our National Capital, not with sword and spear, but with missiles that are more destructive of National wealth and prosperity than were the armies of Xerxes to human life. But the great Captain, THE AMERICAN FARMER, is already in the field, and, like an armed warrior and a plumed knight, is charging the enemy all along the line, and now, fellow farmers, let us join in the chorus from the Atlantic to the Pacific.—East Greenwood, O.

Scab. An Indiana farmer thinks he has "scab in his flock, and wants to know how he could possibly get it?" You may have bought it, got it by shipping sheep by railroad, by passing through stockyards, by your sheepshearer having sheared a scabby flock before he sheared yours, or by yourself having handled scabby sheep or wool and carried it home.—EDITOR AMERICAN FARMER.

Lice.

A valued authority on all practical treatment of stock says the best way to get rid of lice is to use a kerosene emulsion. It not only kills the lice, but also the nits and eggs. Apply with a common brush, rubbing the emulsion well into the coat, and then sprinkle the stable manure and feeding troughs thoroughly with the same.

THE SUGAR BEET.

Excellent Prospects for the Crop Which Will be Harvested This Year.

By Walter Maxwell.



WITH the opening of the Spring season great activity is already being shown in the sugar beet work. The time of planting does not commence until the middle of April, and after most of the Spring seeding work has been gotten out of the way. Nevertheless, those having the intention of putting a greater or less area in beets are already making their plans and carrying out the first acts of cultivation. A great deal of preparatory work, such as deep plowing and subsoiling, was done last Fall; but unfortunately, the majority of our sugar-beet growers have not yet come to a thorough appreciation of the value of Fall preparation of the soil, and the consequence is that the work which should have been done last October is only now being undertaken.

The United States Sugar Beet Experiment Station commenced

THE WORK OF THIS SEASON

in the first week of March. The work of that institution, as it has been already explained, is to make experiments with the established European varieties in order to ascertain whether the high qualities and distinct characteristics of those several types can be maintained in the soils and climate of this country. It is further intended to demonstrate whether high-grade seed can likewise be produced from beets grown in this country; or in other words, whether native seed can be grown which will answer the same purpose and have as great a value as the seed which is being imported each year from the growers in France and Germany. The beet seed bill which this country pays the European beet-growing countries amounts to a very considerable sum, although the present acreage of sugar beets produced in this country is still small, and it is certainly worth the consideration of those engaged in beet culture. The question as to whether home-grown seed can be produced which is in every sense equal to that which is imported is, indeed, worthy of attention.

Now the Government Station has also as its purpose the production of seed and the testing of the same in comparison with seed grown in the several European varieties. The results of this experimental work are being awaited with great interest, because it is well known that the data furnished by the Department of Agriculture Experiment Station will be such as beet growers and capitalists can absolutely rely upon.

At present the laboratory of the station is engaged

IN THE ANALYSIS OF MOTHER BEETS which are intended for the production of seed in the coming season. Upon the basis of such analysis the beets which have been preserved in the silos through the Winter are resolved into several classes according to their content of saccharine matter. Each class will produce seed of a given grade. The seed produced will be planted and the beets grown from the same will be tested in order to observe whether the sugar value of those beets grown from native seed is equal to the mother beets which were grown directly from the French and German imported seed. The reports of the station will furnish in due time the results which so far have been obtained.

During the last week we have had the advantage of spending some time with the representative of the Oxnard Sugar Beet Company, whose factories are located at Grand Island and Norfolk, Neb., and likewise at Chino, Cal. Mr. Ferrars, the agriculturist of the company, informs us that they are extending the area of beet culture very considerably in the State of Nebraska. Not only are beets being grown in the immediate neighborhood of the factories for this company, but contracts have already been made with farmers whose lands are located at very considerable distances from headquarters. The company has also rented quite an area which will be planted in beets under its own control. In the immediate vicinity of the Department of Agriculture Station a very fine tract of land has been secured, and a contract made for its use for the present and succeeding seasons.

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THE CLOVE TEST.

Its Great Power for the Detection of False Complexions.



MISS REDMAYNE was decidedly pretty; she dressed well, and was very careful in wearing only the colors that suited her.

She was a fragile, delicate-looking little woman, and affected half-lights like a rare fern; the strong sunlight with its fierce glare did not suit her.

She was a pathetic creature, too; doubly fascinating, doubly dangerous when narrating the troubles and trials she had experienced during her married life, and with her troubles and trials she was accustomed to entertain her numerous admirers in the drawing-room of her little boudoir residence in Blank street, Mayfair.

Mrs. Redmayne, like most eminent consulting physicians, never received more than one patient at a time. Her visitors were all men, not that there was anything shady about Mrs. Redmayne, but she did not encourage lady callers.

She invited a few female intimates to dinner, but she took very good care that those ladies whom she distinguished by her friendship should be good talkers, and, at all events, plain enough to act as foils.

The real fact is that Mrs. Redmayne had married the Justice because he was reputed to be a very wealthy man, and Cissy Redmayne herself, as a girl, had known all the real bitterness of poverty, being a poor curate's daughter.



AT THE CLUB WINDOW.

Justice Redmayne's income was very large when he married the pauper curate's only child. Though he was 60, and an experienced man of the world, it was purely a love-match on his side.

But the Justice, though he fondly loved his pocket-Venus of a wife, loved old port wine still better, and, after 10 years of happiness, the Justice fell a victim to his favorite poison, and left Cissy \$25,000 in hard cash and the freehold of the little house in Mayfair. And then Mrs. Redmayne made the following simple calculation:

"I can live at the rate of \$8,000 a year for three years; somebody worth having will marry me in that time, and if I fail to find the somebody, I must throw up the game and go back to papa and cold mutton."

She had been quite right; several comedies and a good many nobodies had paid her a great deal of attention, but not one of the comedies got half so much encouragement as Lieut. and Capt. Strongthearm of Her Majesty's carpet warriors.

To be a carpet warrior nowadays needs a considerable deal of money, blood, or interest; Jack Strongthearm had money and interest too. He was a fool, but the mere fact of his being a fool by no means disqualified him for the carpet warriors.

Now, Lieut. and Capt. Strongthearm, being wealthy, was quite a veteran among the warriors. He had been 10 years in the regiment, and he was deservedly looked up to by his brother officers as a connoisseur and judge of beauty. He was very critical, and terribly hard to please.

Many had been the nets laid by wily mothers for that too wary bird, Capt. Strongthearm; but no one, till he met Mrs. Redmayne, had yet succeeded in putting salt upon his tail.

And now he was her accepted lover, and although their marriage was not announced, it was tacitly understood.

Strongthearm had but one failing. He smoked morning, noon, and night. It was a real grievance to him that the Queen's regulations did not allow him to smoke on parade.

Now, Mrs. Redmayne hated tobacco, and ever since his courtship Strongthearm had been a non-smoker for her dear sake. It was a severe penance to him, but he bore it like a man; he suffered in silence, and never complained.

But one fatal afternoon Strongthearm was tempted, and Strongthearm fell. A very Exalted Personage, indeed, was accustomed occasionally to drop into the Warriors' Club. Once inside its exclusive walls the Exalted Personage used to unbend and become very much like an ordinary mortal.

His proceedings were always exactly the same; he would take up his position in front of the fire, or at the window, according to the season of the year, order a brandy and soda, pull out his cigar case and politely offer a cigar to one of the warriors; and then for the next half hour the Distinguished Personage was but an ordinary member of the club.

No one had ever been known to refuse to smoke the offered regalia—it was a kind of royal command which could not be disobeyed; and so it happened that Strongthearm, who had been innocently sitting at the window, waiting for Mrs. Redmayne's little victoria to pass, found himself the recipient of the royal bounty in the shape of a very dark-looking Havana of exquisite flavor.

There was nothing for it; the Captain lighted up with a smile and a groan, and all the other warriors envied him his luck, and then he and the Distinguished Personage continued to stare out of the window and criticize the passers-by.

They had not been three minutes there when the little victoria flashed past with its cocked coachman and its pair of fiery chestnuts. The big pink sunshade was tilted on one side, and pretty little Mrs. Redmayne looked up at the window and smiled.

Then Strongthearm blushed to his ears and returned her salute, as did the Distinguished Personage at her side.

"I fancy that bow was meant for you; you're a lucky fellow, Capt. Strongthearm. Ahem! Who is she?"

Strongthearm would have liked to lie to him, but that, unfortunately, is contrary to etiquette.

"Widow of Justice Redmayne," he replied; "at least, I believe so."

"Seemed to know one of us, at all events," said the Distinguished Personage. "Splendid complexion—wonder if it is her own?"

"Oh, it's perfectly genuine," blurted out Strongthearm, and then he felt that he had made an ass of himself.

"I wonder whether her complexion would stand the glove test," said the Distinguished Personage; "it's a wonderful thing, that glove test," he continued, with the air of one about to impart a scientific fact. "You know the glove test, Capt. Strongthearm?"

"Can't say I do, your honor."

"Not know the glove test? I've known it ever since I was a boy! I've burst in on it. It's an invaluable thing to know—an infallible test. You get a glove, you know, and you've only got to get near enough to the suspected cheek—and that's not so very difficult, by Gad!—and just to breathe upon it, and if it's pink it turns black at once."

"You don't seem to be getting on with that weed," continued the Distinguished Personage; "try another," and out came the hospitable cigar case.

There was nothing for it. "To hear is to obey" is in London a solemn duty as at the Sublime Porte. Strongthearm accepted the cigar, and this time took good care not to let it out.

Capt. Strongthearm seized an opportunity to make his escape, and as he went down the stairs of the Warriors' Club his soul was tortured by unworthy suspicions. Was it possible that Cissy Redmayne's complexion was not her own?

"At any rate," thought the captain to himself, "I'll get some gloves; it'll take the beastly smell of the smoke away, anyhow."

And he went into the nearest chemist's and made his purchase. Then he had his hair brushed at Douglas', and was vaporized with strong odors, and he bought a squeeze of "The Exclusive Bouquet" from the young lady with the ringlets, and then he jumped into a cab and drove straight to Mayfair.

Never had Cissy Redmayne looked so charming. The heavy odor of sandalwood seemed to act like an intoxicant to the gallant officer, and when the little Louis Quinze shoe, with its coral buckle, was innocently protruded, the Captain felt that he was the luckiest of men.

He had been quite right; several comedies and a good many nobodies had paid her a great deal of attention, but not one of the comedies got half so much encouragement as Lieut. and Capt. Strongthearm of Her Majesty's carpet warriors.

To be a carpet warrior nowadays needs a considerable deal of money, blood, or interest; Jack Strongthearm had money and interest too. He was a fool, but the mere fact of his being a fool by no means disqualified him for the carpet warriors.

Now, Lieut. and Capt. Strongthearm, being wealthy, was quite a veteran among the warriors. He had been 10 years in the regiment, and he was deservedly looked up to by his brother officers as a connoisseur and judge of beauty. He was very critical, and terribly hard to please.

Many had been the nets laid by wily mothers for that too wary bird, Capt. Strongthearm; but no one, till he met Mrs. Redmayne, had yet succeeded in putting salt upon his tail.

And now he was her accepted lover, and although their marriage was not announced, it was tacitly understood.

Strongthearm had but one failing. He smoked morning, noon, and night. It was a real grievance to him that the Queen's regulations did not allow him to smoke on parade.

Now, Mrs. Redmayne hated tobacco, and ever since his courtship Strongthearm had been a non-smoker for her dear sake. It was a severe penance to him, but he bore it like a man; he suffered in silence, and never complained.

But one fatal afternoon Strongthearm was tempted, and Strongthearm fell. A very Exalted Personage, indeed, was accustomed occasionally to drop into the Warriors' Club. Once inside its exclusive walls the Exalted Personage used to unbend and become very much like an ordinary mortal.

His proceedings were always exactly the same; he would take up his position in front of the fire, or at the window, according to the season of the year, order a brandy and soda, pull out his cigar case and politely offer a cigar to one of the warriors; and then for the next half hour the Distinguished Personage was but an ordinary member of the club.

"You're the only person who thinks so," said Mrs. Redmayne, with a little purr of pleased proprietorship. "Awfully good of you, I'm sure," said the Captain; "you don't help a fellow a bit, Cissy. What I wanted to say was"—and the traitor slid his chair close to hers, keeping tight hold of her hand all the time. "I'll whisper it, Cissy," he said, and his voice trembled in his excitement.

The poor little woman turned her cheek toward him; she thought the wretch was going to kiss her, and she was nothing loath—such innocent familiarities are very dear to engaged persons.

The above is indeed a mixture of races, but Mr. Tefft quite likely believes that in union there is strength, and we gather from his article that the crosser bees the greater yield the honey.

In another column Mr. Tefft makes the wild statement that "manufacturers and advocates of single-walled beehives, metal corner frames, queen excluders, slatted honey boards, dovetailed beehives, every minute you spend on the above useless things is utterly and entirely lost. These fancies are a thousand years old, and as musty as they are ancient."

We believe the above to be a correct quotation from the article in question. Now, every article in the above list, with the exception of the single-walled hive, has been invented within the last quarter of a century and a long way within it, and no one is better aware of the fact than Mr. Tefft himself.

A little farther on he says: "For the life of me, I cannot see why beekeepers want self-warmers or self-swarming hives, drone traps, queen excluders, honey boards, or clipped queens. These six things in beekeeping are not required at all. They are useless, worthless, expensive, etc." Now, a part at least of these articles can usually be found in any well-equipped apiary, and the question arises very naturally who is wrong? A majority of the leading and most intelligent beekeepers of the country or one man who devotes one-half of his writing to slurring free manufacturers and the other half to free advertising of some invention of his own in the line of hives. A little farther on he says: "For years I have produced as much honey as anyone, and have not used any of the above."

Now, that statement covers a good deal of ground, and one would hardly suppose that anyone having followed the business of producing as much honey as the largest apiarist in the country would be obliged to insert an advertisement in the *American Bee Journal*, March 3, 1892, page 330, as follows:

Wanted—A situation in an apiary or hive. I am willing to make myself generally useful. J. W. TEFFT, 318 Swan street, Buffalo, N. Y.

Or, if he did, keep the advertisement running for a large portion of the Winter without changing his post-office address. I believe that an experienced apiarist can command fair pay with little trouble.

Mr. Tefft then makes the assertion that reversible frames are indispensable to the production of well-finished comb honey, and calls those who differ with him in regard to this matter a lot of "old fogies," and informs them that they "do not know how to manipulate bees," etc.

Now, the fact of the matter is that there are few, if any, apiaries in the country to-day where reversing is practiced to any extent. From frames he passes by a perfectly natural transition to hives, and informs his now nearly distracted reader that he cannot produce honey for the market with single-walled hives, as the bees do not rear brood early enough in the season, and informs the reader that bees will think it far more pleasant to die than to thaw out in such hives.

He then winds up this most remarkable tirade by saying: "There! I guess I am way ahead of the times; but I shall be content to sit down and let the times catch up."

Now let us imagine Doolittle, Root, Dr. Miller, Hutchinson, and a score of others who are considered as authority on bee matters, sitting at the feet of this modern Huber, this apicultural Solomon, and listening with bated breath and uncovered heads to the words of wisdom that roll from the lips of the Sage of Erie County as he waits for "the times to catch up."

Now, in conclusion, let us say that if the writings of Mr. Tefft fell into the hands of none but experienced beekeepers little harm would result from his idle vaporing. But a paper like THE AMERICAN FARMER, with its large subscription list, has many readers who keep a few colonies for the production of honey for home use, and who never see a "bee journal" of any kind, and this class of readers are, as a matter of course, in many cases influenced by such writing, and give the supply dealer and queen breeder they would otherwise deal with the cold shoulder.

We are not in the supply business; though we have machinery to cut our fives, etc., we have nothing of the kind to sell, nor do we offer for sale queens. Our specialty is honey; therefore, as we have no financial interest in any of these articles, we can be allowed to speak of them freely. We have had dealings with some of the men whom Mr. Tefft condemns, and found them as honorable and prompt in their dealings as other business men. In fact, the supply dealer is just as much needed by the modern beekeeper as the jobber is by the merchant, and all talk to the contrary is idle talk; and regarding the useless articles these men keep for sale, it is enough to say that they keep what the beekeepers use and endorse.—J. A. NASH, Monroe, Iowa.

Some Questions Answered. EDITOR AMERICAN FARMER: Please answer through your paper what reliable man can a person send to for a yellow Italian queen bee? How can I manage to get her eggs, and how manage to hatch them? I want all the instruction on beekeeping I can get, as I have just commenced, and know nothing about it.—JESSE BULLERS, Jamesville, Mo.

EDITOR AMERICAN FARMER: I do not wish to stir up any controversy or create ill-feeling among the fraternity of beekeepers who write for or read the Apiary Department of this paper. But in some of the articles of Mr. Tefft there are statements that are not in accordance with my experience or the experience of the great majority of practical apiarists.

In the Feb. 15 number of THE AMERICAN FARMER Mr. Tefft makes the statement that gentle bees are worthless, other than "to sell to those who know nothing about bees. These gentle bees gather hardly enough honey to support themselves." Listen to this, you gray-headed men who have labored long and well to improve races of honey bees; you who, like the writer, have stepped into the apiary, not as a hired assistant but as the owner of a hundred or more of booming colonies, and opened hives after hives without the use of smoke or veil (the gloves you threw away after you got rid of the last of those high-tempered Cyprians or those wrath-provoking Egyptians, if indeed you ever used them at all), and gazed with sparkling eye on the beautiful golden bands of the quiet Italians as they basked in the sunshine on the alighting board or hung in pendant festoons from the roof of the portico of your old, time-honored "Langstroth," idling away their time, while the fragrant clover blossom was visited only by the industrious Cypro-Syrian and the hindens wasted their sweetness on the desert air, except when their petals were despoiled by the equally industrious though un-equally vicious *Apis mellifica* from the log "gums" and nail-kegs standing in the yards of the farmers who had no time to investigate the merits or demerits of other races of bees, or whether a reversible frame recommended by some party in the East was superior to the cross sticks in the bass-wood log or not.

Listen to this—and all this time you fondly imagined that your bees were of profit unto you, and now, as your dreams are rudely disturbed and the scales fall from your eyes, you wonder how it comes that from those beautiful but worthless bees, that were fair indeed to look upon but of no practical utility except for household pets or perchance to sell at gilt-edged prices to the people

who had in some mysterious way escaped the footlocker, you had managed to secure a large crop of honey or a phenomenal increase. And you begin to be about half of the opinion that you did not understand the gentleman from Buffalo, but you read a little farther and come to the closing paragraph:

"No, sir; no one can produce honey in paying quantities, with gentle bees. Give me Italian mixed with Cyprian and Syrian blood every time. They will sting a cast-iron stove, I know, but they gather immense quantities of nectar."

The above is indeed a mixture of races, but Mr. Tefft quite likely believes that in union there is strength, and we gather from his article that the crosser bees the greater yield the honey.

In another column Mr. Tefft makes the wild statement that "manufacturers and advocates of single-walled beehives, metal corner frames, queen excluders, slatted honey boards, dovetailed beehives, every minute you spend on the above useless things is utterly and entirely lost. These fancies are a thousand years old, and as musty as they are ancient."

1. I will say there are quite a number of parties from whom you can obtain nice Italian queens. Among the following you can make your own selection as to whom you will send to: J. D. Givens, Lisbon, Tex.; E. F. Quigley, Unionville, Mo.; G. M. Doolittle, Bordino, N. Y., and, of course, Jennie Atchley, Greenville, Tex.

2. You can get the eggs from your queen by introducing her to a colony of bees as per directions that go with each queen.

3. You can hatch her eggs, or the bees will, by leaving them in the hive. They must be kept warm, the same as other eggs, to hatch. If you mean to get and hatch her eggs to produce queens, I will say that the same egg that makes the worker bee will make a queen, if properly fed and handled by the bees, and this you can accomplish by giving a frame of brood and eggs from your queen to a queenless colony.

I shall be proud to give you all the information in my power through the columns of this paper. Just make your wants known, and I will, to the best of my ability, answer all questions. We have A, B, C of Bee Culture, Doolittle on Queen Rearing, a nice and well-written book, each of which will be sent on receipt of price by THE AMERICAN FARMER. All these books are cheap, not costing over \$1.25 by mail, postpaid. I feel from the spirit of your questions that you are the right party to take hold of the bees. All you need is a few bees and the necessary information to make a start, and you will very soon learn. Please do not hesitate to make your wants known, and they will be answered through THE AMERICAN FARMER.—JENNIE ATCHLEY, Greenville, Tex.

UNDER THE BLOSSOMING BRANCHES. Spring Preparation and Spring Management. EDITOR AMERICAN FARMER: We are near the time when the beekeeper enjoys his or her work as in no other season of the year.

The season of the year when the most beautiful creations, the most exquisite productions of the earth, give forth the incomparable nectar, the "sweet distillation of heaven and of heaven's dew." Is not Nature the most inspiring theme—Nature in her new Spring gown, with corsage bouquet and shoulder knots of the rarest of flowers; that is, the simplest and most beautiful?

And how wonderful are the laws, the provisions of Nature. Some flowers under some circumstances are not self-reproductive, without the aid of insects, and these are provided with odor and the secretion we call honey. Why? To attract insects in order that the fructifying pollen may be scattered and the process of fertilization go on. While other flowers that need no outside aid for fertilization are without odor and secrete no honey.

But the bees, the bees. How necessary they are to vegetation! They do a greater service than the insects that forage merely for the nectar in the delicate dripping flower cups. The bees must not only collect honey, but also pollen, the beautifully-colored dust that is carried by the wind and by insects from flower to flower. Pollen mixed with honey is what is called "bee bread," and is the staff of life of the young bees. Therefore, the bees working in pollen and carrying the dust to flowers aid greatly in the increase of any crop depending upon the distribution of pollen. It has been said again and again that bees ought to be on every farm, even if the farmer does not wish to be a beekeeper, even if the bees do not gather a pound of surplus honey. They have earned their "keep" and much more by increasing the products of the farm.

But Spring is at hand, and under the blossoming branches there is much pleasure and some hard work for the beekeeper. If the right system be followed, the double-hive, non-swarming system, the labor is less than by any other system.

The success of the season depends upon the start in the Spring. "If no surplus honey be secured before the first or middle of June, then there was none to gather or the management was at fault. To insure success, to get honey, the brood chamber must be full or nearly so of honey and brood before the great harvest from Spring flowers begins, and then when honey does begin to flow in from the fields, there is no place to put it except in the surplus chamber."

Do not attempt to keep bees for profit in a single-story hive with half-story cap or surplus chamber. Double the hives and double the bees. There must be a large force of bees. From Spring flowers or from any particular crop, what is taken must be taken quickly; the honey will not wait for the beekeeper to raise bees to gather it. Therefore the colony must be recruited to its maximum strength before the harvest begins.

The whole secret of profitable beekeeping lies in Spring management, in Spring preparation. If the beekeeper be behind in the Spring, with no surplus honey to show after the passing of the Spring flowers, the prospect is not promising to make anything or to make much during the season. Again I say, double the colonies and double the bees. Put on the drone trap and keep it on; prevent swarming by the natural method; drive the colonies, and the result will be, in a fair season, not less than 100 pounds of extracted honey per colony. By the double-hive, non-swarming system 178 pounds of extracted honey was taken from one colony.—JULIA ALLYN.

Hog Cholera. The advertisement of a sure-cure hog cholera medicine, by J. W. Dell, appears in another column.

THE SUGAR BEET.

Continued from first page.

The Standard Cattle Company, whose immense establishment is located upon the Union Pacific Railroad at Ames, which is some 80 or 90 miles east of Grand Island, has contracted to grow 500 acres of beets for the supply of the Grand Island factory. The character of this well-known company is a sufficient guarantee that this contract will be carried out in full completion. As a further example of the enterprise of the above sugar company arrangements have also been made with a large Dutch settlement in Colorado to produce some 500 acres of beets, the whole tonnage of which will be shipped by rail to the Grand Island factory, a distance of not less than 260 miles. The location in this case undoubtedly will make the experiment a doubtful one. In the first place, it is not yet known whether

BEETS CAN BE GROWN WITH SUCCESS in the semi-arid region of Colorado, but the Oxnard people are offering these particular inducements to the Dutch settlers who have recently arrived from the old country in order to make the experiment on a large scale, which will generally indicate what may be expected in the culture of beets in the dry districts of the central northwest with the aid of irrigation. If this experiment should afford even a moderate promise of future success there is little doubt but that the said company will determine to locate a factory in the midst of the beet-growing district in Colorado, already mentioned.

The Oxnard Company has made very considerable steps forward in general attempts at the production of native seed. These efforts have been upon a broad and general scale, and although they do not afford the exact scientific data which it is the purpose of the United States Government Experimental Station to furnish, they undoubtedly have shown that they are capable of producing seed, the value of which has yet to be tested. This year, in the immediate neighborhood of Grand Island, some 70 acres of land were planted in mother beets, the product from which was about 20 tons of dressed seed. Already seven tons of seed have been shipped to the beet fields of the Chino factory in California, where it will be planted in competition with other seed imported from France and Germany. As the agriculturist remarked, "20 tons of seed already to hand, whose value is some 10 to 15 cents per pound, comes in very handy, and if the company should show its ability to produce native seed enough for the requirements of

THE BEET-GROWING DISTRICTS, and in all respects equal to the foreign seed, the saving will be an immense item." It has already been remarked by ex-Secretary of Agriculture Rusk "that the production of beet seed in this country will in time be a large and distinct part of the immense industry," and the indications are that the words of Gen. Rusk are likely to be established.

The great difficulty, however, is the cultivation of the beet. There is no trouble at all in getting the beets converted into sugar when once they are grown. The factories in existence in this country are in all respects equal to the great factories of the beet-growing countries of Europe. They are manned by experts in all respects as competent as those in France or Germany, but the one problem is the production of the crop. Now, the companies have proceeded upon a plan of making contracts with the farmers to produce the beets for them. The results so far are not of the most satisfactory or hopeful character. In the first place, the culture of the beet is in itself a distinct and difficult undertaking. Those men who are capable of growing good crops of corn and cereals and of performing all the operations belonging to general agriculture are in no sense immediately ready to take up with the new branch of beet production. To produce

A GOOD CROP OF BEETS, that is a crop which it will pay the farmer to grow on account of the weight obtained per acre and likewise pay the manufacturer because of the content of sugar in the beet, special preparation of the land and a continuous state of high cultivation of the crop are necessary, and the chief trouble is to bring the farmer to understand this fact. Only with time and with some measure of success will the farmer himself come to the conclusion that it is worth his while to give serious attention to the work. Considerable misunderstandings have occurred between the small growers and the factory authorities. The farmers, in some instances, have considered themselves wronged, and it has not been always possible for the manufacturers to show exactly what their position was.

Certain growers have produced large beets which are of no value excepting for feeding purposes. They send in those beets to the factory. The sugar content is determined by the factory experts, and it was shown that the small amount of saccharine matter present made it impossible for the factory to pay what the farmer thought a remunerative price, and in many instances the beets could not be worked at all they were so absolutely poor in sugar. Now the farmers are not chemists, and it is difficult to make them understand how one crop of beets can contain so much less sugar than another, and until they come to an understanding of these general facts and to a better knowledge of the principles of culture which must be observed in order to produce a good crop, misunderstandings must exist, and the factory people who doubtless act in rigid honor and accuracy in all their transactions will be misrepresented and abused.

The State Legislature is making some endeavor to come to the assistance of the industry in Nebraska. A bill is now before the Legislature for the purpose of

PLACING A BOUNTY which shall be equally divided between the grower of the beet and the manufacturer of the sugar. Whether these legislative endeavors will mature or not, we are at present unable to say, since there is a very powerful faction which is broadly and fully opposed to bounties in any shape and for any purpose.

We do not think, however, that the actual success of sugar beet production in this country is wholly depending upon the question of subsidies granted either by the State or Federal Legislatures. Not only in the best beet-growing district of California, but also in Nebraska, it has been shown that crops can be grown the sugar content of whose beets will enable the production to stand upon its own feet. It is true that where the growers are still in the experimental stage of production the beets will be produced at a loss where the prices per ton are such as the factories are able to pay where no bounty is in existence; but where the companies have areas in their own control and are producing beets under their own expert management, crops will doubtless be produced which will at least enable them to make ends meet, and with further progress in the knowledge of the culture and the bringing of labor to a condition of greater skillfulness, the industry is destined to grow and succeed. Nothing can be more confirmatory of the observations we have made than the statistics which are given relating

TO THE PRODUCTION OF SUGAR in the United States in the years of 1891 and 1892. In this country there are two sugar beet factories located in Nebraska, one in Utah, and three in California.

	Pounds.
The Norfolk factory, Nebraska, produced	1,608,400
The Grand Island factory, Nebraska, produced	2,110,100
The Utah factory produced	1,432,800
The Chino factory, Cal., produced	7,683,541
The Alameda factory, Cal., produced	2,906,561
The Western Beet Sugar Co., at Waterville, Cal., produced	1,300,021

Now, the total production for the year of 1892 was not less than 27,083,322 pounds, or 12,000 tons, while in 1891 the total production was 12,400,838 pounds, or 5,559 tons. The actual increase in 1892 over the season of 1891 was 15,078,484 pounds. It is thus seen that in one year the industry, measured by its output of sugar, has made an increase of almost 120 per cent. Of the total amount of beet sugar produced, California supplies almost 22,000,000 pounds, while Nebraska and Utah together furnish some five and one-half million pounds. These data indicate that the sugar beet finds

A MORE GENIAL SOIL, and climate in California than in those west central States; but it must be remembered that the industry has been established for a considerable length of time in the far West, while its career in Nebraska extends only over three or four seasons. It is a matter of profound interest and gratification to review the attempts which have been made at different times and with different results to produce sugar yielding beets in this country.

We may go back to the primary endeavors which obtained in North Hampton, Mass., and also in several districts in the Eastern States and remember how unpromising the results were. We may recount the desultory attempts which have been made in other States at other times and likewise bear in mind the small fruits, and when we now travel over the States in which the chief beet regions are located and see the immense manufacturing plants which have been established for the purpose of handling and utilizing the crop, we are not only struck with the advancement, but we see every necessary guarantee for progress in the future. The sugar beet industry, although yet on a small scale, is gradually coming forth from the mere experimental stage. It is being considered by capitalists as an undertaking in which funds may be placed with a certainty that, at least, moderate dividends will be yielded, and there are certain leaders of wealth and enterprise who do not hesitate to regard it as one of the great and sure things of the future.



RUBBER ROOFING. Is unequalled for home, barn, factory, or outbuilding, and costs half as much as other roofing. It is ready for use and easily applied by any one.

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ON TIN OR IRON ROOFS. Is acknowledged the best paint, has a heavy body, is easily applied, expands by heat, contracts by cold, and never cracks. One coat equals 4 of any other. Roofing is covered with felt can be made water-tight at small expense. Write for our catalogue. Ind. Paint & Roof Co., 42 W. Broadway, N.Y. Mention American Farmer.

BOOKS FREE! Any one or more of the following books will be sent absolutely free to anyone forwarding 12 cents in stamps to cover cost of packing and postage on each book. As many books will be sent as may be desired:

"Reveries of a Bachelor"—By Mark Twain. 60 cents. "Was a Suicide?"—By Ella Wheeler Wilcox. One of this writer's best novels. 12 pages. 60 cents. "Poems and Verses" by James Whitcomb Riley and Bill Nye. 20 pages. 60 cents. "An English Girl in America"—By Tallulah Matson. 20 pages. 60 cents. "Sparks from the Pen of Bill Nye"—12 pages. "People's Reference Book"—300,000 facts, 20 pages. "Health and Beauty"—By Emily K. Boston. Just the book for constant study, and especially adapted for both sexes. Containing rules which, if observed, insure health and beauty. 28 pages. "Social Etiquette"—By Emily K. Boston. A thorough discussion of this most essential subject. Can be read by many to great advantage. "Manners make the Man." 28 pages. "Leaving Europe"—An imaginary voyage to the World's Fair, Chicago, 1893. Illustrated. 20 pages. "Cosmopolis"—By Paul Bourget. Over 300 pages. Address, D. B. Martin, Genl. Pass. Agt. Big 4 Railroad, THE WORLD'S FAIR ROUTE, Cincinnati, Ohio. Mark envelope Book Department.

PERSONAL.

"Uncle Jerry" Buck's official successor in the Agricultural Department, Secretary Morton, declares that he can husk more corn in a given time than any man west of the Missouri River. "I think nothing of husking 200 bushels in a day when the weather is propitious," he says. In a "shucking match" with ex-Senator Van Wyck, of Nebraska, a few years ago, Mr. Morton claims to have beaten his rival by a stretch of six hours. The prize in that contest was a sorrel colt, which the Secretary still possesses.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE OXFORD DOWN FLOCK BOOK, VOL. IV. Published by the Oxford Down Sheep Breeders' Association, 11 Henry Row, Secretary, Norfolk House, Norfolk St., London, W., C. England. Price 10 shillings, six pence.

Vol. IV. contains 125 pages, and registers runs from 1941 to 1961, and covers from 80 to 343. The publication of the fourth volume shows the success the Association has attained. With each successive volume the number of registered flocks has increased, while the use of registered sires has increased wonderfully. This bright outlook has given new incentive to those who are advancing the progress of the breed, and the society is well pleased over the fact that a large number of Oxford Downs were imported to the United States and admitted free of duty.

THE AGRICULTURE OF PENNSYLVANIA, 1892. Published by the State Board of Agriculture, Thomas J. Edgar, Harrisburg, Secretary.

This is a book of over 600 pages, strongly bound, and contains the reports of the State Board of Agriculture, the State Agricultural Society, the State Horticultural Association, and the State College for the year 1892. It is full of interesting matter, and is an excellent showing of Pennsylvania agriculture.

THE DAILY NEWS ALMANAC AND POLITICAL REGISTER FOR 1893. Published by the Daily News, Chicago, Ill. Price 25 cents.

This is one of the most complete reference books we have seen, and is one which will be found full of interest for farmers all over the country. In addition to the valuable other matter quite an amount of space is devoted to a description of the World's Fair buildings and grounds.

Notes.

We have received the annual reports of the Wyoming Agricultural College and Experimental Station for the year ending 1892. A copy of the book can be had upon application to Grace Raymond Heland, Secretary, Cheyenne, Wyo.

The New York Tribune Almanac for 1893 consists of 350 pages of statistical matter, comprising a full presentation of about every subject of public interest. It is, in fact, a reference library and encyclopedia even when standing alone. Everything is put in the right place for ready use, and the entire work is carefully indexed.

A Bold Banco Game.

John V. Smith, Fruitland, Ore., sends an account of how a farmer residing in Polk County, near Salem, was smoothly bamboozled out of \$2,500. L. S. Skinner, the victim, owns 340 acres of land and is worth in the vicinity of \$40,000. Two men came and wanted to buy his farm, offering him \$40,000 for it, stating that they were positive that oil was underlying it. Before closing negotiations the men informed Mr. Skinner that they represented a new lottery and wanted to give away a few tickets in that locality. They were looking for responsible men to take free tickets and urged Mr. Skinner to take one, which he did. To the farmer's surprise his ticket drew a \$5,000 prize. The men only had among them \$1,500, but they would leave that with the farmer until the morning, if he would give them security for \$2,500, when the lottery company would send the full prize. The sharks went to town with the farmer who drew the \$2,500 from the bank. The money was all put in a tin box, including the \$1,500, making in all \$4,000. This box was given to the farmer, so he thought, to hold while the sharks kept the key to the lock. The box containing the money was kept by the swindlers and a box packed with sawdust given to the farmer, who took it home with him and hid it away. The morning on which the men were expected to arrive with the \$5,000 prize came but no men appeared. The box was broken open and the fraud discovered. As the men had plenty of time to escape little hope is given for their arrest.

Planting in April.

Of course the exact time for planting depends largely on location; but the nature of soil has much to do with the planting. This is where the individual has to use his own judgment. Retarded planting might in some cases be an advantage if the soil is heavy. In the North, celery should be planted, if not sown last month. Plant beets early and long. Cabbage, Redhead, Early Drumhead, and Late Flat Dutch, and sow the cabbage plentifully. Lettuce and sow parsley, parsnips, and peas early and late. Cress and cucumbers should be put in a warm spot, and beans must not be forgotten. The weeds must be vigilantly watched, and not allowed to grow an inch.

Sunlight and Soil.

In growing vegetables there must be sunlight. The gardener cannot afford to have an intercepted ray. There should be no shadows cast on the garden, whether from trees, shrubs, houses, or even fences. Trees near the garden are sure to rob the soil. Their spreading roots should be cut off by making deep trenches. The question of soil should be well considered. It is futile to fill it with sufficient quantities of the ash ingredients of the plants to be grown, and these must be in a soluble condition that the plants may absorb them.



MR. GEO. W. HAMMOND.

GETTYSBURG

A TERRIBLE WOUND
After Two Amputations
Blood Poisoning
Set In.

Long Years of Awful Suffering—Cured by the Wonderful Powers of Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Mr. Geo. W. Hammond is a member of Root Post, G. A. R., of Syracuse, N. Y. He was wounded in the terrible battle of Gettysburg, and tells some of his subsequent experiences, as follows:

"In the summer of 1861 I enlisted in the 69th N. Y. S. Vols., and soon after joined the Army of the Potomac, participating in all the major battles of the war that my regiment got into until the battle of Gettysburg. In this great battle the 3d Corps of which my regiment was a part was actively engaged. In the second day's fight, when our lines were advanced, I was

Struck in the Ankle

by a minnie ball, which smashed the bone. My leg was amputated in the field hospital, and after a long time it healed. I was discharged and returned home. Eight years after my return my wound broke open afresh, and finally Dr. Pease, of this city, amputated it again, taking off about an inch of the bone, and again it healed. Four years after this it once more opened, and for eight years

God Only Knows

what I suffered. I do not believe it possible for a human being to suffer worse agony. During this time I had to go on crutches, being unable to wear a wooden leg. Whenever possible I relieved my suffering by taking opiate, but being

Blood Became so Poisoned

that it broke out all over my face and on some parts of my body, so that my face was all covered with scars at the present time. One day I read of what Hood's Sarsaparilla would do. The first dollar I got I sent and bought a bottle and began taking it. A week or two later my wife, in writing me, said it seemed to be improving, and at the end of a few months, thank God (and I say it reverently) the sores all over my body had healed, and now, four years later, have never shown any sign of reappearing." GEO. W. HAMMOND, 219 Magnolia street, Syracuse, N. Y.

Hood's Pills

Are rapidly advancing to the front. They are the

Best Family Cathartic and Liver Pill

Hood's Pills are purely vegetable and do not contain mercury, calomel, or any other injurious substance whatever. Hence they can be taken by the most sensitive and delicate people with full confidence of satisfactory results.

They are hand made, and are perfect in composition, proportion, and appearance. Thus they can always be relied upon as even in quality and strength. They act promptly and efficiently, and do not purge, pain, or gripe.

Acting especially on the liver, they invigorate this important organ to its duties and

Cure All Liver Ills.

They are especially valuable as a dinner pill, assist digestion, prevent congestion and pro-

Hood's Pills are sold by all druggists, 25 cents per box; five boxes one dollar. Will be sent by mail on receipt of price by C. I. HOOD & CO., Proprietors, Lowell, Mass.

P. S.—Have you seen the beautiful plaque, "The Lion at Home?" sent to any address for one trade-mark from a box of Hood's Pills, and a 2c. stamp.

Col. Weaver.

himself a one-armed veteran confirms Mr. Hammond's statement.

"I have known Mr. George W. Hammond as an old soldier for several years, and have every reason to believe that his statement in regard to Hood's Sarsaparilla is correct." CHAS. A. WEAVER, Com. Root Post, G. A. R., Bond, N. Y.

From Pharmacist Belden.

"I have known Mr. Geo. W. Hammond for several years, and have sold him drugs and different remedies for the ulcer on his leg, among others Hood's Sarsaparilla, and I know no reason for doubting the accuracy of his statement. I have sold him no drugs since his leg healed up four years ago." J. L. BELDEN, Pharmacist, Syracuse, N. Y.

STOMACH TROUBLE.

A Sufferer Finds Relief After Years of Pain.

Hood's Sarsaparilla Restores Health and Flesh.

"Cascadia, N. Y., Feb. 15, 1893.

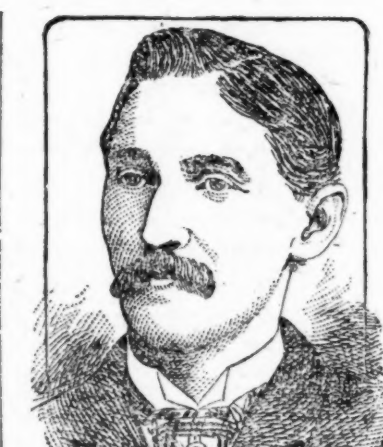
"I wish to tell of the benefit I have received from taking four bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla. For years I have suffered intensely with pains in my stomach and side, and also in account of gall stones. After eating I would be in such distress that life was a burden. I became so reduced in my flesh that my friends thought I would not live. I tried the skill of several physicians, but did not receive only temporary relief. I grew worse, and my removal to hospital in Syracuse was under advisement, when my father had me give Hood's Sarsaparilla a trial. There was an improvement at once, and I have continued taking it, although I am now well. I have gained in flesh and can eat heartily without distress. My friends say I don't look like the same person, the change has been so marked. I now enjoy life, and I owe it all to Hood's Sarsaparilla." MRS. MARY SHUTE.

A VETERAN'S EXPERIENCE.

He Took Hood's With Perfectly Satisfactory Effects.

"Franklinville, N. J., Feb. 1, '93.

"I am an old soldier; served three years in the late war. When discharged I was weak and worn out with hard service, and have never been very well since. My appetite was poor and my blood in bad condition. I tried several kinds of medicine, but none of them did me the desired effect. I saw some of my friends who had taken Hood's Sarsaparilla. They said it had done wonders for them, so I asked my family physician about it. He said it was good. So I commenced to take it. It opened up my appetite and cleansed my blood, and I can honestly pronounce it one of the best medicines that I ever saw. My wife has taken it for dyspepsia, and she says it does her more good than anything else." GEO. W. HILLS.



J. H. STILLMAN

CAUSE FOR THANKSGIVING.

Malarial and Mercurial Poisoning—Rheumatism, Neuralgia, etc.

Read a Veteran's Experience.

"Cheltenham, Pa., Nov. 24, 1892.

"Gentlemen: It is Thanksgiving Day, and I have one thing to be thankful for to-day, and that is for Hood's Sarsaparilla; for by its use I have enjoyed better health the past year than at any time since I left the army at the close of the war. During the war I contracted typhoid fever, which was followed by fever and ague, leaving me with malarial and mercurial poisoning, from both of which I have suffered ever since, and which manifested itself by neuralgia, rheumatism, nervous prostration, and general debility of the whole system. Much of the time I have been

Unable to do Any Work.

and of what I did earn, I have paid a good part to doctors who did me no good. But thanks to Hood's Sarsaparilla, which I began taking about a year ago, I have not lost a day's work for three months or more on account of my health, and weigh 150 pounds more than I have before for thirty years. You are at perfect liberty to use this if you think it will do any good." J. H. STILLMAN, Cheltenham, Pa.

Spring Medicine

is needed by nearly everybody to purify the blood, cleanse the system of the winter's accumulation of impurities, and put the whole body in good condition for the summer. Such universal satisfaction has

Hood's Sarsaparilla

given for this purpose that it is the most successful and most popular Spring Medicine. If you feel weak and tired, Hood's Sarsaparilla is just what you need to restore your strength and make you feel perfectly well.

The following is from ex-Congressman Warner, a gentleman highly esteemed by all who know him:

"I can truly say that I consider Hood's Sarsaparilla the best medicine for purifying the blood. It did me good when physicians and other medicines failed. It has increased my appetite and seemed to renew my youth. This is absolutely true." W. S. WARNER, Fond du Lac, Wis.

Good Spring Medicine

"Catonk, Tioga Co., N. Y., Feb. 1, '93.

"I had that dreadful 'tired feeling' we hear so many complaints about. I have taken one bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla, and am very much better. I think it is a very good Spring medicine." MRS. THOMAS HARRIS.

Hood's is the Best.

"I take Hood's Sarsaparilla and find it the best medicine for the blood. I recommend it highly for a blood medicine, and also as a purifier of a good appetite. As for Hood's Vegetable Pills, my wife says they are the best. They do not cause any pain. She would not be without them in the house." L. M. HAYSON, 120 N. Seventh street, Columbia, Pa.

Best Blood Purifier.

"Montgomery, N. Y., Feb. 7, 1893.

"I have used Hood's Sarsaparilla and think it the best blood purifier. It has greatly helped me. I have also used it for catarrh, deafness, and scrofula sores, and know it is a fine medicine." MRS. JOHN DONNELLY.

A Business Man's Letter

How His Prejudice Was Overcome.

Intense Misery with Dyspepsia—No Help from Physicians, but HOOD'S CURED

"Marshall, Michigan, Dec. 1, 1892.

"I have been led to address you from a deep sense of gratitude for the great benefit I have received from the use of Hood's Sarsaparilla.

"For twenty years I have been a constant sufferer from dyspepsia. Have spent many hundreds of dollars for medicine, and the best the physicians have been able to accomplish has been to give temporary relief, and in most cases they have not even done that. Thus I have suffered on through these long years of misery.

A Heartily Welcome There.

"Those that have never been afflicted with dyspepsia, can have no conception of the misery I have had to endure, and those that have, need no description at my hands of the horrors of the truly unfortunate dyspeptic.

"And just a word in regard to the reasons why I changed my mind in regard to the use of patent medicines. An old friend of mine whom I knew had been afflicted for many years with dyspepsia, and for a few months I noticed that he had been wonderfully improving in his general health, and upon inquiry I learned that the great change had been wholly brought about through the use of Hood's Sarsaparilla. He advised me to 'try it by all means,' but the idea of an 'patent medicine' was a very bitter pill to swallow. But urged by my great sufferings to do something, I finally yielded, and commenced its use. I am now using my fourth bottle, and am happy to say that I feel better than I have in twenty years.

"I have gained in flesh and can eat heartily without distress. My friends say I don't look like the same person, the change has been so marked. I now enjoy life, and I owe it all to Hood's Sarsaparilla." MRS. MARY SHUTE.

Yours, thankfully,

"FRANK C. STURM."

SIMPLY AWFUL

The Worst Case of Scrofula the Doctors Ever Saw

Complete and Permanent Cure by Hood's Sarsaparilla

10 Bottles \$10. Over 1000 Per Cent. of Profit.

In the BATTLE OF GIANTS, Hood's Sarsaparilla vs. Scrofula, the former is always victorious if fairly and honestly tried. Is any stronger evidence of its wonderful powers needed than this from Mr. George W. Turner, a young farmer of Galway, Saratoga County, a few miles north of Amsterdam, N. Y.:

"To C. I. Hood & Co.

"When I was a boy 4 or 5 years old I had a scrofulous sore come out on the middle finger of my left hand. Not much was thought of it at first, but after a time it got so bad that the doctors, in hopes to save my hand, cut the finger off, but it did but little good, for the sore soon covered so much of my hand that they finally took off more than half of it, including all but my thumb and forefinger. Then the sore broke out on my arm, gradually extending nearly to my shoulder. Next the scrofula came out on my neck and face on both sides, nearly destroying the sight of one eye. Later it showed itself on my right hand and arm and I feared I was to lose that too, but, although it attacked the bone and the doctors said a portion is dead, the sores were not as bad as on the other. The doctors, as well as all the neighbors, said that mine was the

Worst Case of Scrofula

they ever saw, and I guess they were right. It was simply awful! The sores, which never ceased running, were sores to which anyone looking at only. If they were such as to cause a loathing and disgust, simply to look at, then

I Should Lose the Use of it

entirely. I was in this condition when I began to take Hood's Sarsaparilla, but I had not taken more than a bottle or two when I began to feel better, and when I had taken four bottles my rheumatism had entirely left me. I have been more

Free From Rheumatism

this season than in years. Besides rheumatism, I like many others of sedentary habits—for I have been a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church forty years—have been troubled with dyspepsia, but while taking the medicine my

Appetite Has Been Good,

food digested well, and have gained several pounds. I have also been troubled with insomnia, but since taking Hood's Sarsaparilla, sleep much better." REV. W. R. PIERCE, Richford, Vt.

Nothing Could Be Done

for me, one day a friend advised and insisted that I should try Hood's Sarsaparilla. I began to take it and at first could see little improvement. But I determined to give it a good trial. Gradually I found that more and more I began to feel better. I kept on till I had taken 10 bottles, and I felt just what I felt when I returned to the investment! A thousand per cent.? Yes, many thousands. Who can compute it in per cent.? For the past four years I have had no trouble and no sores. I am able to

Work All the Time,

notwithstanding my partially crippled condition, and have taken a farm to work. Before, I could do no work. I know not what to say strong enough to express my gratitude to Hood's Sarsaparilla for my perfect cure. My case is fully known to everyone in this vicinity and needs no confirmation from anyone of this statement that I voluntarily make. The scars and effects still remain that I can show to anyone who doubts the condition I was in but years ago. I am no longer taking the medicine. I earnestly entreat anyone who is afflicted with scrofula to lose no time in trying Hood's Sarsaparilla, and to

Stick To It

till it can be no longer doubted that it will effect a cure. No one but myself can realize the great amount of good it did me." GEO. W. TURNER, Galway, Saratoga County, N. Y.

Endorse Every Word

Cure Complete and Permanent.

"This certifies that I have known George W. Turner since his boyhood, and considered his case a singular one. He had had several bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla, and the cure was complete and permanent. I can endorse every word of his statement." H. B. CROUCH, Druggist, Galway, N. Y.

Complete Restoration.

"Brooklyn, N. Y., Jan. 18, 1893.

"I was troubled with humor and scrofula in the blood. My appetite was capricious; all food

caused intense distress and I could not sleep well at night. A large swelling came on my neck and added to my pain. Different medicines did not help me, and I received but little nourishment. I was badly run down, when I began to take Hood's Sarsaparilla. Now I am greatly improved and feel very well." MRS. A. R. HALEMAN, 167 School St.

I Vote for Hood's.

Forty Years in the Ministry.

Rheumatism, Dyspepsia, and Insomnia—Great Benefit from Hood's Sarsaparilla.

"I have been taking Hood's Sarsaparilla for four or five months, and am satisfied that it is a very excellent remedy. I have been troubled with rheumatism more or less for a number of years. My back and hips, and indeed my whole body at times, have been afflicted. The rheumatism has been especially severe in my right arm between the elbow and the shoulder, which has been so lame that I sometimes fear it

I Have Been Perfectly Cured,

am now in good health, and confidently say Hood's Sarsaparilla saved me from the grave. Today I am looking as stout and hearty as ever in my life, and I cheerfully recommend Hood's Sarsaparilla to anyone suffering from blood disease." WM. EITICK, West Duluth, Minn.

Cured Severe Case of Scrofula.

"Angelica, N. Y., Feb. 6, 1893.

"I have taken several bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla at different times. I have had several scrofula swellings, one particularly bad one on my head. A friend advised me to take Hood's Sarsaparilla. I did so and it cured me. Now when I feel bad, weak, and tired I take Hood's Sarsaparilla and it always helps me. I have persuaded several of my friends to take it, and it always does them good. I consider it a very valuable medicine." MRS. C. W. AYERBROOK.

Honored and Respected

A Man Among Men Candidly Tells His Experience.

Found Hood's Sarsaparilla of Great Value.

The following from Joel H. Austin, pension attorney at Goshen, Ind., and for twenty years a missionary minister of the Baptist denomination, is worthy of careful consideration:

C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

"I have suffered for years with swelling of my limbs, which at times would be very painful, especially below the knee. They would become quite numb at times, and then again at night my limbs would ache severely. I could not sleep. I have now taken six bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla, and for weeks there has not been any swelling of my feet and limbs. I have also suffered for years with catarrh in the head, which was working

Down Into My Lungs.

I have faithfully tried many remedies only to receive temporary relief, but since trying Hood's Sarsaparilla the pain in my head has stopped and I am positive of a perfect cure.

About a year ago my wife had the grip very badly and did not and fully recover. She took a bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla and has been restored to perfect health, feeling better than she has for a number of years.

"In reference to Hood's Pills, I would say that they act promptly and pleasantly, with no gripping whatever. Hood's Vegetable Pills are our family cathartic. I have recommended them to many people, and at least a dozen are taking it from noticing its effects on me." J. H. AUSTIN.

Saved from the Grave.

Scrofula in Face and Neck—Blind at Times.

Hood's Sarsaparilla Restored Health—Gained 35 Pounds in Weight.

"I have been a very great sufferer from a serious case of scrofula. First, a large bump came in my neck, growing as big as a good-sized apple. It was as hard as bone, and after drawing it to a head the doctor lanced it, and for two years it was

A Running Sore.

Then we succeeded in healing it up, but the disease began to appear in my face, which would swell up and affect my eyes so that every morning they were so inflamed and swollen that I was blind. The swelling would subside in the middle of the afternoon so that I could see a little. Well, I was in this condition for about a year. I went to every physician in my town, all of whom failed to help me and said nothing could be done to cure me. But I began to take Hood's Sarsaparilla, and when I had used a bottle and a half the swelling in my face had entirely gone down. I kept on taking the medicine, and gained 35 pounds in weight.

I Have Been Perfectly Cured,

am now in good health, and confidently say Hood's Sarsaparilla saved me from the grave. Today I am looking as stout and hearty as ever in my life, and I cheerfully recommend Hood's Sarsaparilla to anyone suffering from blood disease." WM. EITICK, West Duluth, Minn.

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THE U. S. Treasury redeems on an average half a million dollars of paper money every day. Every dollar of this money is examined, rated, and counted by women.

MISS CLARA BARTON, National President of the Red Cross Association, has renovated one of the old historic houses of Washington and has made it most attractive for a home and for the headquarters of that well-known organization. She has detracted nothing from its large, airy style of interior, while in some cases the massive walls are beautifully softened by the draperies of various National flags which have been presented to her as tokens of regard.

THE Board of Lady Managers of the Fair had many misgivings lest they should not succeed in getting from the Men's Board the privilege of making such appointments and gaining such appropriations as they deemed necessary to do justice to their branch of the work. By a clerical blunder the bill gives all the money into the hands of the women. No money can be drawn unless Mrs. Palmer signs the vouchers. In writing of the matter to a friend she says: "We of course were very much surprised at the unforeseen denouement, and welcome the opportunity of showing the gentlemen how magnanimous we can be now that our positions are reversed."

In the Sick Room and Out. Milk puddings and stewed fruit for bilious dyspepsia. Marigold poultices are as good as wormwood for bruises. Do not get in the habit of using too much ammonia in your household work. Never sleep in any room at any season of the year which has not a place for pure air to enter.

Never rub a sprain. Already the little fibers are lacerated, and rest and treatment to allay fever is all that is needed. If possible, glue up a cut as soon as it stops bleeding. Bind it up and leave it alone. The air has been excluded, and that is the one thing desired in healing. Never hang out clothes in cold weather when you are heated. Many women have contracted bronchitis or pneumonia from this careless act. If no one can hang them out for you let them wait until you are cool.

A turpentine pack is the best known remedy for an acute attack of inflammation of the bowels. Take a soft towel, wet in as hot water as you can bear the hands, wring out the surplus water. Pour on in drops as much turpentine as the cloth will absorb. With this cover the entire abdomen and place over it flannel of one thickness.

A Salt Bath. If your little one is just recovering from some of the child diseases and does not grow strong rapidly, or is restless at night, give him a salt bath. This may be prepared with the sea salt purchased from your druggist or from superior dairy salt. The water must be as warm as possible and supplied generously with salt. The bather must carefully rinse in a second and cooler water and then be rubbed into a warm glow. The bath should be taken immediately before retiring, and has often been the means of breaking the spell in a long series of sleepless nights.

Sterilize the Children's Milk.

While opinions may differ in regard to the amount of meats and vegetables that should be given to children, it is universally conceded that milk is the standard diet for a child till he is six years old. The susceptibility of milk to the propagation of disease, as well as other germs, renders it one of the most dangerous foods used. And when we stop to consider the many opportunities which nearly all milk has of absorbing odors and impurities, we can but wonder that it is not more hurtful than it is. The cow may be diseased, the milk may be diseased, and so on the possibilities may be numbered. Anyone buying milk from an unknown dealer can see the necessity of removing as far as possible all danger from disease. Nothing will do this so effectually as sterilizing it. This may be accomplished very easily by placing the milk in a small-neck bottle in a kettle of water, the temperature of which is gradually raised to 150 degrees. It must be kept at this temperature for 10 minutes, then removed. As soon as it will permit of it it must be corked up and kept air tight till used. It is simply scalded milk with the possibility of germs from the air entering reduced to the minimum.

Tempting Drinks. Many delicate and elderly people feel the effect of the lack of exercise and the

close rooms of the Winter months. This manifests itself in loss of appetite. Nothing is more nutritious than raw-beneth eggs. These may be given with brandy or blackberry wine, as best suits the system, a tablespoonful to an egg. If it is objectionable for the person to take bitters the egg may be added to it a tablespoonful of thin cream and a trifle of salt, perhaps a little nutmeg. Hot milk is a very stimulating drink. The prepared beef teas with a raw egg added and taken as hot as possible is also very strengthening. A cooling drink for a feverish patient may be prepared from any tart home-made jelly and water. By the use of calf's-foot jelly a delicious wine jelly may be prepared. Boil the feet all day, and after cooling and skimming the stock add the wine and then set in molds to cool. This stock may also be used while warm as a liquid, to which may be added raw eggs and milk. In both cases the only use the broth may serve is that of a medium in which to serve the more nutritious articles.

Children's Corner.

EDITOR AMERICAN FARMER: Papa is taking your paper, and we all like it very much. We live near the Tallapoosa River, which is one mile and a half west of us, and the beautiful flat rock one and a half acre. Acres of rock there are, with now and then some wild flowers growing in the cracks or a feeble spring bubbling out, which is bordered with wild flowers all around. This is not a rich country, but we can raise almost everything here by careful industry. The most of the farmers are very poor, and it is sad to see so many of them so badly in debt. I think the cause is we need more manufactures. We have very little sale for anything except cotton, and that not a very good price. We have a large orchard; almost all kinds of fruit grow well here. We have a variety of apples, peaches, cherries, plums, pears, figs, blackberries, strawberries, raspberries, gooseberries; well, almost all kinds of berries grow wild here. We have churches of all denominations here. Do not have very good schools. I am 13 years old; have one brother. Grandma and grandpa live with us.—A. BERTHA JABRELL, Bosworth, Ala.

Pastimes.

There are a few pleasant games in which a mother may lead which also serve to instruct. One is the illustration game. To each member of the circle give paper and pencil. Allow a certain number of minutes for the players to illustrate their chosen subjects, either a title of some familiar book, a proverb, or some scene in a book that has been read aloud in the family. When the time is up each person passes the production to the left, and in turn each person guesses what the subject is. The one that receives the most correct votes has beaten. Something that tends to interest young people in literature is an entertainment where each person present dresses to illustrate the title of a book. A girl had two flags in her hair—"Under Two Flags." "The Light That Failed"—a young man carrying about a candle that had been snuffed out. "Snowbound"—a Miss Snow, her arms bound in white ribbon from the wrist to the shoulder. And so on through a long list of well-known books that will suggest themselves to any interested person.

Another mirth-provoking pastime is to make out as many slips as there are players, and on each slip write the name of the animal which the person is to draw. The sketch should be made at the bottom, and before the slip is passed on the name at the top should be folded down. Each person as he guesses folds down his guess, and then when all are passed upon by each they are collected and read by one person. It is no uncommon thing for a buffalo to be taken for a horse or a rabbit for a dog.

Fashion's Fancies.

THE SUMMER SKIRT

No longer need the hoopskirt be regarded with doubt. Its fate is settled. It is not to be worn. All of the hand-some new woolsens, silks, and grenadines, however, are amply supplied with canvas or haircloth or crinoline muslin, whichever best suits the material of the gown. A compromise between the full skirt and the bell has been agreed upon.

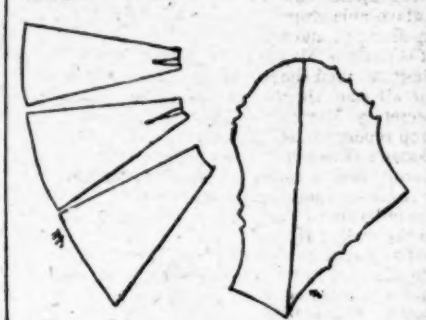


None of the graceful outline of the figure has been lost in voluminous folds around the hips, yet by generous goring the fullness at the bottom is very marked. Some of the new gowns of light material measure over five yards

around, and some even seven, but these are not in general favor. With the increased fullness comes the usual shortening. No dress is made to touch now that it is to be worn for anything but very full dress. Above is given a drawing of one of the most popular skirts. It has all of the grace of the bell skirt, and yet it is an improvement upon it, as by the side breadth we are able to bring a bias and a straight together and thus prevent the sagging in the back and the drawing up in the front which annoyed almost all of us.

The skirt clears the ground all around by a quarter of an inch, making perhaps the most graceful effect we have had in years. The stiffening should extend 18 inches only, making a much prettier outline than some of the late Winter skirts could give when the canvas was 30 inches deep.

The skirts are trimmed either up the seams or in rows around the bottom; the latter style is much more popular. A very pretty new dress is made of dove-colored grenadine very much gored, and with three flat folds of heavy silk of a harmonizing tint, each headed with a row of handsome passementerie. These folds are about an inch and a half wide and six inches apart. Some of the ultra-stylish have very narrow folds two inches apart extend from the hem to the waist.



The sleeves grow larger and more gorgeous. For the most part they are rather long and tight fitting to the elbow, where they take on suddenly such proportions as to render them by far the most conspicuous part of the gown. The fullness is gained perhaps by a huge puff of contrasting color or fabric surmounted by a ruffle. It may be made the old "leg o' mutton" style, like the drawing above, with a reinforcement of wiggling set in at the shoulder, too. The waists are not made as short as predicted, and are round or pointed, as best suits the figure of the wearer.

Of course, for the thin, unlined dresses the full effect is gained by numerous flounces upon a gored skirt. The sleeves, too, cannot be lined, and often in the thin silks or the transparent muslin three breadths of the goods are used. For a very young lady it is pretty to have the entire sleeve consist of a large puff drawn together at the bottom with a cord. These are made rather short, coming about four inches above the wrist.

Hats That Are to be Worn.

In attempting to describe the Spring hat it eludes us and resists classification. It seems a composite of all that has gone before. Everything is permissible, from the old-fashioned sailor hat, much decked with violets, to the filmy lace butterfly. No cast-off straw, silk, or flowers that one may have in "the chest" are to be disdained. All may be arranged in perfectly good style. Old chips, fancy straws, and leghorns have been revived and are trimmed in elegant broad ribbons and flowers in the old-time colors of majenta and purple. Spangles are more popular than ever with the milliners to-day.



Lace is much used in loose, fluffy rosettes, and to cover the brim with ruffles. Long loops are made of fancy braids to stand up like pickets on guard among the bouquets of wilted daisies and forget-me-nots and mignonette. The combination of colors and materials do not conform to any preconceived ideas of good style, but seem full of caprices and vagaries.

The flat in fancy braid is of brown trimmed in tips of the same color and velvet of a golden hue. It is a pretty hat for a miss and is suitable to wear with almost any woolsen dress. The child's hat is in navy blue and does not vary particularly in style from those worn by children last Spring. A little more elaborate one may be made by adding white to the blue bow and a bunch of daisies on the under side of the brim and another to the cross part of the bow. The bonnet is in three shades of heliotrope. The crown is of fancy chip in a most delicate shade. The eights are a trifle darker, while the velvet ribbon bows and strings are a rich pansy hue. The ornament is a buckle set with Rhine stones.

The large hat is of fancy chip in alternate rows of pale pink and apple green. The trimming is of velvet a shade darker green than that of the chip, mingled with the heavy Irish lace so popular last season. The wire used

to make the butterfly bows in front is gold or silver, as best suits the general tone of the hat. The bonnet is of jet trimmed with jet wings and ragged silk flowers of a changeable, indescribable bronze hue. The next little walking hat is of black chip trimmed in stiff black wings and velvet bows, with a large cluster of light-colored pansies in the back.



The styles are so varied that with a little forethought it is possible to plan a hat that by adding a rose or knot of ribbon of a certain color it may be a suit hat and yet not out of taste when worn with any dress.

The Bare Floors.

It is impossible to keep certain rooms carpeted and be clean at the same time. A few years ago every inch of floor was carpeted that was available, but the reflex action has set in, and now bare floors are much more common and we do as much scrubbing as did our mothers. While a happy medium is best to pursue in this, there are yet many arguments in favor of bare floors. They are more cleanly, and the dust that rises from a much-used carpet cannot but be hurtful to the lungs. Some people go so far as to say that the prevalence of catarrh to-day is due in no small degree to the lint which is constantly in the air from the carpets.

A treatment I have known given to floors and which has proven satisfactory as a labor saver is as follows: After the floor has been freshly scoured and is well dried, call in the assistance of the "man of the house" and have him treat it in the following manner: Have cleaned two quart paint pails and keep them for this purpose. Fill the pails half full with boiled oil and set upon the stove till boiling hot. By means of a paint brush give a piece a yard square a coat of this hot oil and then rub vigorously with a heavy piece of woolen cloth till it is perfectly glossy. It is necessary that the oil be put on at boiling temperature, and it makes the work much pleasanter and more rapid if someone changes the pails for the worker. If the floor is very old and rough, it may take three coats, but for the ordinary pine two are sufficient, and if you are fortunate enough to have a hardwood one, one is all that is needed a season.

The floor under this treatment gradually takes on a deep russet hue and is almost as highly polished as if it were varnished; yet it has the advantage of not showing marks badly. It has also the great advantage of drying quickly after being cleaned, and this is of especial importance where there are little children or in cold weather.

Lace Curtains.

Nothing but the most careful attention can enable a housekeeper to do a satisfactory job on the lace curtains she will have to do up this Spring.

Upon taking them down take them to the door and give them a thorough shaking, or if the wind is not blowing too hard pin them on the line for a few minutes. Never commence the work on a busy day, as it demands time and care. After the loose dust has been shaken out put them to soak for 20 minutes in a tub of very hot suds made quite strong by adding dissolved Ivory soap. If the curtains are heavy they may be rubbed on the board; if they are one of the finer varieties the work must be done by hand. Use plenty of water, and after washing them thoroughly put them through a lukewarm clear water. If they are pure white they are now ready for the blueing, but those who wish them to be cream may add clear coffee to the rinsing water. Instead of using starch to stiffen them they will look more like new ones if gum arabic is used instead. The number of curtains will have to be the gauge for the quantity of this to be prepared. Upon a teaspoonful of the gum broken into little bits pour a cup of warm water not too hot. Stir from time to time till the substance is dissolved. To every pint of rinsing water add one tablespoonful of this mixture. Great care must be taken in wringing these delicate fabrics, and a wringer should be used if possible. In a sunny spot in the yard have the quilting frames out full size, covered with a sheet drawn taut. Do not put the curtains out unless the sun is very hot. In order to work to an advantage it is better for two to shake the curtains after they have been taken from the gum water and spread and stretch them on the sheets. By making them long enough to hold a full length curtain you may also pin on not less than two curtains at a time. They should be gently stretched both ways out to full size and pinned in each scalloped, or not farther than three inches apart on all sides.

Allow them to remain till perfectly dry and then spread out flat on a sheet green. The trimming is of velvet a shade darker green than that of the chip, mingled with the heavy Irish lace so popular last season. The wire used

to make the butterfly bows in front is gold or silver, as best suits the general tone of the hat. The bonnet is of jet trimmed with jet wings and ragged silk flowers of a changeable, indescribable bronze hue. The next little walking hat is of black chip trimmed in stiff black wings and velvet bows, with a large cluster of light-colored pansies in the back.

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Womens' Wisdom.

TO EVERY WOMAN.—For the present, we have this broad offer to make to all readers of THE FARMHOUSE DEPARTMENT: We will give a full year's subscription to THE AMERICAN FARMER to each friend who will send one-half column of readable matter, 2000s that year. Subscription may be a new one, or it may be an extension of one already in our books.

CONDITIONS.—But note this: We shall apply at least three tests to every article, viz.: Is it brief? Is it fresh and bright? Is it really interesting to women? Let intending contributors apply these tests before sending their matter. In range of topics these may cover everything of special interest to women: Indifferent, gross, or side matter is not wanted. We want to hear from our devoted women, about their housework, fancy work, or the training and education of their boys and girls. The contributions may be upon one subject or composed of short paragraphs on a variety of topics. All MSS. must be written on one side of the paper only. All communications for this department must be addressed to THE FARMHOUSE DEPARTMENT, OF THE AMERICAN FARMER, Washington, D. C.

EDITOR OF THE FARMHOUSE: How do you make your rug? I wish to make some. I have plenty of good material, but I want to make good substantial rugs with the least outlay of time. Shall I wind the rug over a bent wire resembling a hair-pin and sew on the sewing machine, or is there a better way?

I have never made any in this way. Would not a sewing machine making longer stitches, carrying a heavy thread, like those used in shoe factories, be better adapted to rug making? Why not use our rugs in this way and have plenty of nice rugs and support one such machine in a neighborhood? I would like to hire my rug made and have the time to read and work in the garden.

What is the best way to fasten the rug to a rod or pole in the wind to dust them?

Mr. Dear Mrs. K., your bread is certainly beautiful! Beautiful! Isn't that a rather peculiar compliment for bread? If you had said you liked the taste of my bread, but beautiful. Come now, be frank; out with it; you know I defer to your judgment, and I want to know your thought.

Well, then, pardon me, but I must ask, do you put alum in your bread?

Why, just a little in the sponge; but how could you know? My dear, if you had witnessed the sorrow caused by that same practice that I have witnessed your senses would be on the alert. Now, please don't ever put alum in any article of food again. No, not in your molasses cookies or any other article of diet.

No, don't even give the children a lump to cure a few cankers in the mouth. A little dry sulphur is much better and perfectly harmless.—M. M.

Stitches.

(Contributions solicited from all readers.—Ed.)

This variety of embroidery is used a great deal in decoration, is done with the needle and thread, and is a very useful and decorative work.

On fine linen with the needle and thread, size 10, or other size suitable to the work, should be chosen. For the "Stitches" pillow-top, which is stamped in colors for working, size 10 is just the thing, and comes in all shades.

CUT-WORK.

In cut-work or hand embroidery, the design is first stamped or traced, then outlined in close buttonhole-stitch. The bars are worked by crossing the thread from one edge to the other, twisting the thread around the bar thus formed. In return, the working to the next bar in close buttonhole-stitch, and repeating the operation. This makes the work neat and to leave the bars and the outline in buttonhole-stitch is completed.

When finished, cut away the material at the outlining, on the wrong side.

EDITOR OF THE FARMHOUSE: Among the novelties in fancy work, I have seen a few ideas which I think may be of interest and benefit to your readers, one of which I give below. It was a sideboard scarf made of a strip of the full width of a tablecloth, the border thus forming a pretty finish for the ends of the drape. Get a piece deep enough for your sideboard, allowing for a narrow hem on each side, and choose a pattern of some pretty, scattered design, such as a clover leaf, for instance. With a lead pencil mark carefully and distinctly the outline of the pattern, and you have a piece of pick-up work which can be done as easily by night as by day.

Use rope silk or linen to outline the design wherever it is to be found, either in the body or the border of your scarf. The linen is less expensive and washes better than the silk, which is apt to turn yellow, and it is almost as rich when worked.

The scarf can be edged with lace or fringe of the rope linen. If home-made lace be used for the ends and the front edge of the scarf, you will have a very effective cover for very little expense.

This same idea can be used for a whole tablecloth or for the pretty tea-cloth or center squares for a bare table.

Instead of the outline stitch you can use the small chain stitch, which will make the work look heavier.—BILLE FISK ANDREWS, New York, April 11, 1893.

For the Home Table.

BATTERED EGGS.

Put two tablespoonfuls of lard in a hot frying-pan over a quick stove, break into a bowl 12 eggs, and then gently pour them into the pan. Let them cook two minutes. With a skimmer take them out and place on a cloth or brown paper. The fritter batter which is used now is made in the following way: Mix quarter of a pound of sifted flour in a basin with a pint of lukewarm water and three-quarters of an ounce of fresh butter; to this must be added half a pinch of salt and the whites of two eggs. Skim off what butter comes to the top; if necessary, add a little warm water to dilute it, as it must drop readily from the spoon. Beat well for a minute, and it is ready for use. Have ready aside from the eggs inch-square pieces of half-cooked bacon, as many pieces as there are eggs, add these to the batter, dip each egg into the batter, taking up with it a piece of the bacon. Drop them into the hot fat and cook till they are a golden brown. Drain a moment on a cloth, sprinkle with salt, and serve in a hot dish.

VEAL FRICANDEAU.

Chop very finely three and a half pounds of veal, one pound of pork, three slices of crumbled bread, and as much butter as would be used to spread them, two well-whipped eggs, pepper to taste, a little thyme or sage. Pack them in a dish after being thoroughly mixed and bake three hours. This is a very desirable dish for tea when sliced cold.

BUNS.

Beat together one egg and one tablespoonful of sugar until quite light. Add one cup of milk, a little more than a quarter of a yeast cake dissolved in cold

water, two cups of flour, beat all very light, and put in a warm place to rise until morning. In the morning add a half cup currants, one tablespoonful of melted butter, and a half cup of sugar and butter to roll, but care must be taken not to make them too stiff. When real light put on the bread board, and with the hands form into shape. Put into pan and let rise again, perhaps four hours, then bake in a quick oven. When done rub the top with a little melted butter and dredge with powdered sugar while warm.—LUCINDA EARLA GLINER.

ROAST BEEF AND PUDDING FOR A YORKSHIREMAN.

For the pudding make a batter, thin, with a pint of milk and some flour. Season with salt, pepper, and nutmeg, and beat till perfectly smooth. To this add the beaten yolks of four eggs and the whites of two. Again beat well; put in a well-buttered tin; as soon as it is set place on top shelf to brown nicely, then turn it face downwards in the tin so that the under side may be equally well browned. Trim the joint of meat neatly and place in a brick oven. Put near the fire as possible till it is thoroughly seared, then move to a cooler place. Add a little water and baste frequently. Time of roasting, three hours for a 10 or 12 pound sirloin. When served it should be garnished with scraped horseradish and the Yorkshire pudding, which should be cut into diamond-shaped pieces.

THE HOUSEWIFE'S DEPARTMENT.

Spring Opening of Special Offers in Ladies' All Wool Suits.

We offer below a large assortment of useful articles for the special benefit of our lady readers. In the preparation of this list we had in mind particularly the wants of the women. In making up the assortment we have expended a great deal of time and pains in the examination of the largest stocks of goods in the New York market. We have thus been able to secure many things not to be found at all in our country stores, and in all cases we have aimed to save our patrons at least 40 per cent. upon retail prices for the same class of goods.

Everything here offered will be found to be of the very best quality and of the greatest value for the respective prices given. It will be noticed that we have no small change and postage separate in the case of everything sent by mail. In those cases where postage is not named, articles will be sent by express to the nearest express office, except where it is stated "postpaid."

LADIES' BLAZER SUIT.

Just the Thing for Traveling.

Is just what, stylish and becoming to young ladies especially. Appropriate for outings. It consists of jacket, skirt, and pointed girdle. It is well made and neatly finished. It may be had in black or blue in flannel or serge, in any size from 32 to 42 inches bust measure. It will be furnished to any subscriber at the following prices:

No. 145—Navy blue or black Eaton suit of flannel, with double-breasted jacket, extra pants, and Harvard cap, made with peak and roll stand, just the thing for spring. Material of gray, red or brown mixed cambric. Price of outfit is \$7.50. Postage 40 cents extra; or, if sent by express, the receiver pays charges.

OUR GREATEST BARGAIN.

These outfits are the best we have ever offered, and we know will prove a surprise to all who order. They consist of a jacket, skirt, and pointed girdle, and Harvard cap, made with peak and roll stand, just the thing for spring. Material of gray, red or brown mixed cambric. Price of outfit is \$7.50. Postage 40 cents extra.

No. 37.

No. 145—Navy blue or black Eaton suit of flannel, with double-breasted jacket, extra pants, and Harvard cap, made with peak and roll stand, just the thing for spring. Material of gray, red or brown mixed cambric. Price of outfit is \$7.50. Postage 40 cents extra.

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No. 147—Navy blue or black Eaton suit of flannel, with double-breasted jacket, extra pants, and Harvard cap, made with peak and roll stand, just the thing for spring. Material of gray, red or brown mixed cambric. Price of outfit is \$7.50. Postage 40 cents extra.

No. 148—Navy blue or black Eaton suit of flannel, with double-breasted jacket, extra pants, and Harvard cap, made with peak and roll stand, just the thing for spring. Material of gray, red or brown mixed cambric. Price of outfit is \$7.50. Postage 40 cents extra.

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No. 150—Navy blue or black Eaton suit of flannel, with double-breasted jacket, extra pants, and Harvard cap, made with peak and roll stand, just the thing for spring. Material of gray, red or brown mixed cambric. Price of outfit is \$7.50. Postage 40 cents extra.

No. 151—Navy blue or black Eaton suit of flannel, with double-breasted jacket, extra pants, and Harvard cap, made with peak and roll stand, just the thing for spring. Material of gray, red or brown mixed cambric. Price of outfit is \$7.50. Postage 40 cents extra.

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No. 153—Navy blue or black Eaton suit of flannel, with double-breasted jacket, extra pants, and Harvard cap, made with peak and roll stand, just the thing for spring. Material of gray, red or brown mixed cambric. Price of outfit is \$7.50. Postage 40 cents extra.

No. 154—Navy blue or black Eaton suit of flannel, with double-breasted jacket, extra pants, and Harvard cap, made with peak and roll stand, just the thing for spring. Material of gray, red or brown mixed cambric. Price of outfit is \$7.50. Postage 40 cents extra.

No. 155—Navy blue or black Eaton suit of flannel, with double-breasted jacket, extra pants, and Harvard cap, made with peak and roll stand, just the thing for spring. Material of gray, red or brown mixed cambric. Price of outfit is \$7.50. Postage 40 cents extra.

No. 156—Navy blue or black Eaton suit of flannel, with double-breasted jacket, extra pants, and Harvard cap, made with peak and roll stand, just the thing for spring. Material of gray, red or brown mixed cambric. Price of outfit is \$7.50. Postage 40 cents extra.

No. 157—Navy blue or black Eaton suit of flannel, with double-breasted jacket, extra pants, and Harvard cap, made with peak and roll stand, just the thing for spring. Material of gray, red or brown mixed cambric. Price of outfit is \$7.50. Postage 40 cents extra.

No. 158—Navy blue or black Eaton suit of flannel, with double-breasted jacket, extra pants, and Harvard cap, made with peak and roll stand, just the thing for spring. Material of gray, red or brown mixed cambric. Price of outfit is \$7.50. Postage 40 cents extra.

No. 1006—Cambric waist in fast colors, plaited back and front. \$4.50
No. 1007—Of the best percale, double box plaited down the back and front, in varieties of colors. \$3.50



No. 1025—

THE FENCE CORNER.

How He Lost His Supper.
Tommy—Paw, did you go to Sunday school every day when you was a boy?
Mr. Figg—Of course I did. Why?
Tommy—I thought you maybe went only on Sundays.—*Indianapolis Journal.*

How Could She.
Mamma (reviewing Ethel's "composition")—Why, child, this is no way to spell "rhinoceros."
Ethel—But if it does not spell it, how did you know what it was?—*Indianapolis Journal.*

What Experience Taught Him.
"Say, mamma, is heaven beautiful?
than Aunt May's parlor?"
"Oh, ever so much, Johnnie."
"Well, then, I don't want to go there."
"What! Why not?"
"Cause everything 'll be to good to sit on."—*Indianapolis Journal.*

Patent Applied For.



Tourist—What is your idea in working with that wire rope on?
Native—It ain't my idea; it's my boss's—there's a circus in town!

Put to Good Use.

Jack—Seen my tobacco-pouch anywhere, Dora?
Dora—Oh, don't say you want it, I've just done it up in my back hair as a pad.—*Slopers.*

What Helped Him Along.

"Stebbles seems to be getting along rapidly in politics. He is a young man of a great deal of push."
"Yes, but it wasn't his push that helped him along in politics. It was his pull."—*Washington Star.*

Why the Name.

"Why do you call your mule 'Time,' Uncle Jasper?"
"Kase you got to get 'im by de forelock to stand any show."—*Indianapolis Journal.*

True Christianity.

"Papa, will you take me to see the circus to-morrow night?"
"My son, it is wicked to go to circuses, but if you are a good boy I will take you to see the street procession when the circus comes in town."—*New York Press.*

A Double Dose.

"I think the Pilgrim mothers had a harder time than the Pilgrim fathers," said Hicks.

"Why?" queried Dickson.
"Why, they not only had to endure the same privations as the Pilgrim fathers, but they had to get along with the Pilgrim fathers as well."—*Life.*

An Effective Scarecrow.



Farmer—That scarecrow don't 'pear to be no good.



"I kicked when William sent the bill home from college for that suit; but it will pay me three times over."

O'Hooligan's Plurality.

Mrs. O'Toole—Good mornin' to ye, Mister O'Hooligan, an' jye be wid ye, for it's father I hear ye are.

Mr. O'Hooligan—Faix, but the har-ruf hasn't been told ye, Misses O'Toole, an' it's more than father I am with his triplets, becad.—*New York Advertiser.*

Life greatly resembles a basket of apples. You'll find it to think for a moment you stop; the smaller ones are all far down at the bottom, and the big fellows congregated up at the top.—*Defiance News.*

THE DAIRY.

Skimmings.

The dairy interest employs more capital than all our banks and stores combined.

New York State leads in the number of cattle. Its bovine census numbers 1,800,000.

Anyone by applying to the Secretary of Agriculture may receive a copy of Prof. Georgeson's bulletin. No dairyman can afford to be without it. It is within the power of every Congressman to furnish his constituents with a deal of valuable literature. This should be carefully collected and preserved in some permanent form.

One of the first appropriations that should be made is for a distinct dairy department. While our Agricultural Department has done admirably for the farmers it is hedged in by lack of funds. There should be finely-equipped laboratories where the most exhaustive experiments may be carried on. The farmers of America should demand such appropriations as are necessary to carry on with expedition the work so well begun.

When we consider that the dairy interests of the United States employ over \$2,000,000,000 of capital, and that the amount is increasing yearly, we can begin to realize what a vast influence the dairymen may wield in the political and financial affairs of this country. If they are unable to check legislation which is detrimental to their interests, or if they fail to bring about the passage of bills which is imperative to their success, it must be traced to their lack of concerted effort.

Striking progress has been made of late in the methods of buttermaking, more particularly in reference to the almost complete recovery in the butter of the fat present in the milk. At the Pennsylvania Experiment Station they have been able to recover 964 per cent. of the total butter fat in the finished butter. The use of the separator accounts for this. The authorities of this station give it as their opinion that the saving that would result by using a Delaval "Baby No. 2" separator in comparison with cold, deep setting would, in one year with a herd of 20 to 25 cows, equal three-fourths of the cost of the machine.

SPRING KEEP OF COWS.

A Practical Talk With a Practical Man.

The Spring treatment of dairy stock is a topic of all-absorbing interest to almost every one, even though his herd may contain but a single animal; yet at almost any time, however immediate or remote, he may experience the necessity (through accident or otherwise) of availing himself of the knowledge and experience of others. The cow's profit for the Summer may be gaged by the condition in which she goes to pasture. While other stock would speedily fatten and improve in condition on the succulent and nutritious grasses, the large proportion of foods which the cow consumes goes to the production of milk. Milch cows always require much care. There is no season in which it is so unsafe to treat them with neglect. The heavy draft on the system of the cow in bearing her annual calf, and giving milk for 9 or 10 months in a year, is calculated to reduce the health and vigor of the most robust. The product of the cow that is not in strong, vigorous health partakes of her feebleness or disease. If the milk, butter, or cheese are not unhealthful as a diet they are at least deficient in nutritious qualities. Cows are liable to become run down in March and April. They are then very heavy with calf, and frequently reduced in condition by too long milking. No other farm stock is so likely to suffer from unintentional neglect as the cow. If once permitted to fall away it is exceedingly difficult to restore her good condition while in full flow of milk. The secretions of the cow that is lean and poor carry nearly all the nutriment of the food consumed to the formation of the calf. We have frequently noticed that cows in this condition bring larger calves than those that are in good order. The calf is no better for it, and it is worse for the cow. Such cows usually drop calves a week or 10 days earlier than if they were fat. Nature is unable to longer support the burden, and although the calf may appear perfect to the eye, the various organs and functions are not so fully and perfectly developed as if its birth had been deferred a short time. It sometimes happens that in such cases the calf is dropped before the udder is fully filled out, in which case the yield of milk is less, and this deficiency may continue through the season.

The custom general among dairymen of milking late in the season and of their feeding high to recruit the cow we strongly condemn. The terrible scourge, the milk fever, is often caused by this manner of feeding, as is also the garget. Milch cows should be allowed to go dry from one to two months. The food during this period should be all of the good hay the cow will eat, with a few roots, enough to keep the bowels in good condition. As the time of parturition draws near, diminish the amount of roots so as to guard carefully against a secretion of milk. In regard to the length of the period of gestation, the longest is 301 days, while the shortest is 245 days; the most common length of time is 283 days. In the case of the longest period it was unnatural; in that of the shortest the fetus was premature.

Dairymen should be very careful about salting their cows regularly. Nature seems to have provided all domestic animals with an instinctive desire for the use of salt, though many herdsmen claim that it is not necessary. In England it is ascertained by experience that sheep require half a pound

of salt, which is 28 pounds, or half a custom house bushel per annum; young cattle, a bushel; draft horses and draft cattle, a bushel; colts and young cattle, from three pecks to a bushel each per annum. It is also customary to use in curing a ton of hay 10 or 15 pounds of salt. Whether it would be best to use a like amount in our hay mows and what is the best method of salting cattle are I think practical subjects of inquiry. Farmers sometimes neglect their cows until nearly time for them to calve, and then upon opening their eyes to the fact that they are lean and weak put them on liberal or heavy feed suddenly. This is very injurious to both cow and calf. The good feed should be given beforehand, and the cow kept in such condition that she may be put on lighter feed a few days before calving, if there is a tendency to caking in the bag.

The udder should be looked after as the time approaches for the calf to make its appearance. If there is unusual heat and hardness, indicating inflammation, the parts should be bathed in tepid water or warm water in which half an ounce of saltpeter has been dissolved, wiped dry, and rubbed thoroughly with the hands. The milk should also be drawn. The cow should be confined in a stall or pen by herself, free from currents of air and with a good bed of straw. If the calf is to be raised, the sooner it is separated from the cow the easier it will be to teach it to drink and the more quietly the mother will bear the separation. It is our custom to milk the cow from three to six times a day for a few days until all inflammation of the udder, if any exists, has subsided. If there is some inflammation, we give light doses of saltpeter, say half or quarter of an ounce dissolved in water three times a day and bathe udder with the same. Give bran mash, warm drink, and relaxing food for a few days after calving. If the cow persists in refusing to drink warm water it must be given cool, not cold, and in very small quantities, being first allowed to stand until the chill is removed.—A. FARMER, Columbiana County, Ohio.

A Straw on the Surface.

Extract from a speech made by President Howard before the Wisconsin Dairymen's Association:

An important change in the system of paying dividends in creameries and cheese factories is about taking place. The old way was a kindergarten for petit larceny and stupidity. It put a premium on dishonesty and the production of poor milk. A few of the more courageous factorymen have inaugurated the Babcock test with gratifying results. The patron is placed on an honest, progressive plane, where he may expect to receive a full reward for all his outlay of honesty, skill, and energy.

There is no educator of the milk producer like it. When a set of patrons are confronted every day with the percentage sheet it tells the story of good or poor cows, good or bad management, liberal or stingy feeding, and careful, cleanly handling as nothing else can. Every day that its use is kept out of co-operative dairy work but adds to the sum of waste and misdirected effort. I would recommend that the Secretary be instructed to prepare a circular on this question for distribution among the patrons of all creameries and cheese factories where desired, which shall fully explain the system and give examples of its working in Wisconsin. In my opinion this will do a great deal to clear away the fog which exists in the minds of a great many on the merits of the Babcock test.

The work of our cheese instructors the past year has been very satisfactory. It is only but in the way of success in this work is the dense ignorance of true dairy principles which exists in many localities. The past season has been a prosperous one among the dairymen. The output of butter I estimate at over 50,000,000 pounds, and cheese about 35,000,000 pounds. The strong prices which have ruled the past year for fine goods should teach us the important lesson that there can never be an overproduction of fine butter and cheese. It is the poor stuff that costs just as much to make as the good which elicits consumption and brings final loss. Finally, when the farmer has learned that it is twice as profitable to keep one good cow as it is two poor ones; twice as profitable to feed liberally and handle kindly as it is to neglect the things; when the cheese factory and creamery owner has learned that poor goods are death to all future profit, then may we expect the dairy millennium. The mission of this association will never be ended until that time has come.

THE GARDEN.

Pluckings.

Even an hour a week spent in cultivating with horse tools a quarter of an acre of ground will insure to a family a good supply of vegetables.

A first-class tomato must have the qualities of earliness, good size, smooth and cylindrical shape, solid texture, productiveness, freedom from black rot and cracking about the stem. The Matchless is said to combine most of these points.

Peas and potatoes do not mind very much being put in cold, wet soil, but for other seeds the land should be dry enough to pulverize well under the harrow. Lettuce and early cabbages can be started and Spring spinach and kale sown on good locations.

Horse radish starts to grow very early, and is always left in the ground over Winter. If the green shoots are allowed to appear the quality of the root is injured. The root should not be allowed to grow a second season, as it will be tough and fibrous. The previous season's plants should be all cleared away and new ones set.

The wrinkled peas are thought to be not so hardy as the smooth varieties, and the first seedlings should be of the latter. The first sowing may rot if put in too deeply, especially if the weather is wet. Nitrogen in the soil is scarce early in the season, and to add a very little nitrate of soda with the early sowings is said to give profitable results.

Carefully cultivate and drain the garden, and be particular about the rotation of crops. Be sure that a crop does not follow another similar one within a certain space of time, which should not be less than four years. There are a few exceptions, such as the onion and corn

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crop, but these often fail by reason of smut, maggot, etc. It is not entirely exhaustion of the soil which makes rotation necessary, but the fact that insects and fungus diseases establish themselves upon a certain crop and can only be eradicated by a removal of the crop on which they are bred.

BUYING GARDEN SEEDS.

Some Safe Rules to Follow When Making Selections.

EDITOR AMERICAN FARMER: Half a dozen new arrivals in the way of seed catalogs lie on the table before me as I write. With one exception they are nearly square in form and have been tightly rolled in mailing, so that when released from the covers they lie in loose unsightly rolls, and must be pressed before they can be handled with any degree of comfort. The exception, from a firm in our own State, is about 6 x 9 inches in size, and instead of being rolled was slipped in a large envelope. When released it lies flat upon its side, as a well-bred catalog should. One almost involuntarily takes it up first, and as first impressions are frequently the most lasting, we hope our many seedmen friends who read THE AMERICAN FARMER may consider the possible effects upon their own interests of rolling their catalogs for mailing.

Looking inside we find, with again one exception, several pages devoted to "novelties" and "specialties," combining the most perfect pictures, with such eloquent descriptions that the trusting reader naturally feels a strong desire to obtain seed even at the high figures quoted, and plant liberally. These superior varieties now offered for the first time. While the novice may be thus overcome by the enormous prices of impossible quality which seed dealers grow with their little pencils on paper and fondly imagine that he can do as well growing the same varieties with his little hoe in the garden. He usually pays dearly for his experience, and learns to the sorrow those varieties advertised as "novelties" are not, as a rule, a safe investment nor as trustworthy as the many well-known sorts that have built up a reputation on their merits. Still we do not wish to discourage those who have the time and inclination for testing novelties and using them in an experimental way. This is a pleasant and instructive pastime, with the chances favoring an occasional acquisition of superior merit. It is the tendency of the amateur to let his enthusiasm run away with his judgment that we would guard against.

The experienced, practical gardener does not always highly appreciate a catalog as a work of art. He is vastly more interested in obtaining good reliable seeds at fair prices, while he realizes that quality is of first importance. He does not select firms to deal with by the blow and self-praise which he finds cataloged, but confines himself mainly to reputable houses that have served him well in the past, with possibly an occasional small trial order to others. From such he buys as freely and confidently, and influences the trade of others in the same direction with as much assurance when they are represented on his desk by a plain, reasonable, business-like catalog as he would if they should send him a gaudy, windy effusion, reminding one of a highly-colored toy balloon.

There is little risk in buying freely from reliable, time-tried firms whose reliable, time-tried varieties that are adapted to conditions obtained in our own locality or one similarly situated as regards soil and climate. Improvement is the order of the day, however, and it is well to profit by the experience of others, and when reliable persons recommend new varieties as being of superior merit, such may be obtained for experiment.

Environment has much influence upon plants, and all should study their surroundings in connection with the peculiarities of varieties. It sometimes happens that what is lacking in natural conditions can be artificially supplied. Requirements of localities and fancy of individuals are so various that it would be impossible for anyone to compile a list that would be universally acceptable. Hence, it is that we find such an almost bewildering assortment cataloged that it requires a considerable knowledge and experience to make out a list of judicious selections.

In each catalog we find a conveniently arranged order-sheet and envelope. In making selections the list should be kept on a sheet of common paper, and when revised and complete, transferred to order-sheet. Mistakes are not so liable to occur at either end of the line. Order

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